



The Starting Line

February 2009

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

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RRR RRR RRR

Commodore's Comments:

from Rich Jones

The SYSCO Prescription for a Good Year...

If there was ever a good time to enjoy a sport like sailing it's now. Whether you enjoy idyllic day sailing, or the adventures of the cruising life, or the fun and excitement of racing, or hours tinkering with gizmos and puttering around in search for an illusive hint of trouble, there's nothing quite like a sailboat to help soothe the mind and exercise the body.

And if there was ever a good time for SYSCO to encourage people to **Get Out Their Boat**, it's now. The cruising fleet is doing all it can to build maximum fun into their effort to build the cruising fleet and increase participation in SYSCO cruising activities. And while that work is being done under the guidance of SYSCO's cruising program coordinator-for-life, Gib Colistro, and his immenseness, Frank Noragon, the captain of the cruising armada, work is being done by your humble race captain, Alden Andre, with the help of Kerry Poe at North Sails Oregon, to enhance SYSCO's racing program to encourage more people to race their boats.

Put all of this work together and you get SYSCO's contribution to a campaign started by the PNW Moore 24 Fleet up in Bellingham. It's called **Get Out The Boat** or **GOTB**. So if you know anybody with a boat, **GOTB** them and while you're at it, encourage them to join SYSCO at the same time. Oh, and if you haven't renewed your membership, please do it today. And remember, there is no entry fee in SYSCO races for SYSCO members. Your \$70 membership as a boat owner saves you having to pay as much as \$120 in race entry fees. What a deal!



*Let's see you get out to
as many races as you can this coming
year!*

*Motivate everyone you know to get
out sailing,*

Race Locally, Motivate Globally!

Get out the Boat 2009!

SYSCO Racing News

from Alden Andre

Hello to all I hope you are staying warm in these cold global warming days. There has been a lot of racing on the Columbia River this winter. Every Sunday at 1pm a bunch of pirates gather at buoy 14 for some racing fun (see below comments from our on the water reporter).

I would like to see this year to be a banner year with new membership in our club. I challenge every SYSCO race boat to invite at least one new boat owner who isn't part of SYSCO to come out and race. If each member did this we could increase the club at least by 30-40 percent. I have been inviting boat owners in Hayden bay to come out on my boat on Sundays and now a couple of owners have found out how much fun it is and want to join SYSCO and race their boats in the cruising class this spring.

The following is an excerpt from "reporting" on the Sunday Pirate Sailing...

Hello Racers and Cruisers, Snidely Marks here, you're on the water reporter! Whoa! What a day on the water! The tension in the air was like watching a tornado build! The pre-race extravaganza was fantastic as the shoreline crowds and the spectator fleets watched the pre-race parade of all of the local yacht clubs. The race course was 14 - 18 -14. The wind was out of the S/SE at 8-12 knots for the first half of the race with 2-4 knots at the first rounding. After the rounding it stayed at 2-4 knots. The temp was 45 degrees with no precip. Eight different countries and two independent syndicates participated in this weekends sailing event.

The pre-race wind-up was incredible as the syndicate yachts all jockeyed for position. Captain 'Bilgewater' of the yacht 'Fly-bye' did an interlocking, overlapping, emmalmenn turn on the yacht 'Wy-East' forcing the overconfident and seasoned skipper Frank 'The Enforcer' Colistro into the Rose City Yacht Club (RCYC) entrance channel much to the chagrin of the skipper. Fortunately there was plenty of time for the skipper to turn around inside the marina and re-enter the race course.

Frank "The General" Noragon had engaged the 'Smart-Drive' autopilot system on the yacht 'Cool-Change' and the skipper and crew were all below decks have hot-tatties! The collision avoidance software on the yacht performed flawlessly as other yachts tried to cross her bow, only to be fired on by the automated paint-ball system!

Bill 'Chumbucket' Sanborn seemed to be able to go where he wanted and when he wanted much to the consternation of the other yachts at the start line. It was noted by this reporter that Chumbucket had his new

gondola driver 'Kent Stir-well' onboard and it is speculated he may be using the new 'Slitherin' oversized rudder technology. This technology is currently under investigation by the ISR Race Committee. The 'Hatchet', Senior analyst on the ISRRRC team, feels her team should have a ruling on the 'Slitherin' technology before next Sundays regatta.

Meanwhile two mystery yachts showed up at the starting line only to be recognized by this reporter as 'Rollerball' the 35 foot International Match Racing Champion four years in a row, and 'Luscious' the 54 foot voluptuous two-toned yacht and International Offshore Champion owned by Bo 'The Intimidator' Knab of the Portland Yacht Club (PYC). The PYC doesn't often enter boats in the ISR events because they haven't been very competitive, however, they certainly sent their big gun this time!

As the 'Horn' sounded, 'Rollerball, Fly-bye, Wy-East all hugged the Oregon side to take advantage of the slow water and pulled out a substantial lead over the rest of the field. The remainder of the field all crossed the start line about the same time, with 'Luscious, Child-of-the-Mist, and Ozymandias holding the last three positions. 'Luscious engaged her hyper-drive and started moving through the field taking advantage of her waterline.

(cut to the finish...)

As the front three boats were nearing the finish, it was 'Rollerball' in the lead with 'Fly-Bye' and Wy-East' exchanging positions as they got close. 'Rollerball' crossed the line first, followed by 'Fly-bye' and then 'Wy-East. In fourth place was L'Orca' with Ozymandias overlapping them for Fifth. 'Upstart' was not far behind in sixth, followed by 'Cool-change' that was obviously having trouble with their 'Smart-Drive' auto-pilot as their jib was loose and luffing as they crossed the line. 'Luscious' did not finish as she furled her sail after rounding the first mark and then motored in. I am not sure where 'Child-of-the-mist' and 'Dew-drop-Inn' finished.

As most of the readers are aware, there are in use today, several handicapping methods for bringing sailboats with different performance curves inline with one another. The ISR uses the WACI method for handicapping its fleet. Under this methodology, the faster boats have to hang 5-gallon buckets over the side to slow them down and bring them inline with the slower boats in the fleet. It was obvious by the way the boats finished in yesterday's race that the two mystery boats were not dragging their fair share of buckets!

Well, it was quite a race, and this reporter was glad to be part of the 'shock' and 'awe'!! Until next week...Snidely Marks signing off!



Text and photo courtesy of Terry Johnson. Thanks Terry!

SYSCO Cruising News

Submitted by Bob Brown for Gib Colestro:



SYSCO's 2009 cruising schedule promises fun and adventure for all, so as our illustrious Commodore says...

“Get Out The Boat!”

Spring Shake Down - March 21st to East Dock Government Island

Memorial Day - May 23rd to 25th to Martin Pond

Just Because! - June 20th to the Gilbert River

Independence Day - July 3rd to 5th Martin Pond

SYSCO's Annual Delta Cruise – starts July 25th at Martin Pond

SYSCO's Annual St Helens Race/Cruise - August 29th/30th (NOTE the earlier date this year)

Labor Day - Sept 5th to 7th to Coon Island

Fall Colors Cruise - October 24th to Hadley's Landing

713 QUIZ...

What IS that?



You may have seen this vessel moored at the old Red Lion 'Thunderbird' Dock west of the I-5 bridge. It is the LCI 713, the floating home of the Amphibious Forces Memorial Museum. The 713 is open to the public Saturdays from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. Large groups or other schedules can be arranged by contacting the AFMM at <http://www.amphibiousforces.org/index.html>.

Thoughts from the Rear

Bill Sanborn

Winter time sailing has been great this year, and the “Sail on Sunday” crowd has had a great time and seen some really tactical battles with lots of close crossings. This is expected to continue into the spring, and everyone is invited to come out and join in these pick-up races. Over the winter I would guess that probably 25 different boats have showed up at least once and typically we have around 10 boats at the start.

The Delta Cruisers met for a planning meeting and set the SYSCO Cruising schedule, and destinations for the year. This is just a suggested list. It only takes a couple of phone calls and another cruise destination can be added, and often time at the last minute we just decide to go out.

Racing is the major emphasis of the Club and always has been, and I am more convinced as I sail with the OWSA Ladies, and hear them talk about events that happened to them on boats, when they did not understand what was happening, or why pull this or push that, or how not rigging the boat for the prevailing conditions makes one think someone's going to die. Lots of these stories involve just getting the boat out of the slip and back in. We know that sailing around a race course involves sailing to all points of sail and you need to learn to sail in the conditions that are present at the time of the race. I encourage those with boats to enter the races and just sail the course as a forced learning experience, and those without boats to volunteer to crew, and become a proficient crew. If you are looking for a crew person I will recommend OWSA members, most of them have a “Can Do” attitude and if they have taken some of the OWSA Training Classes they have a good idea of what is going on and with a little direction will be contributing to your boats performance.

See you at “Château SYSCO”.

Meeting Minutes for the SYSCO Board Meeting Held February 2, 2009

Board Members Present: Rich Jones, Scott Ferre, Mary Stainsby

Treasurer's Report

- Membership renewals continue to come in so far approximately \$2100 has been received.

Race Captain Report

No race captain report this month

Social Report

- Chateau SYSCO planned for February 21, 2009 for membership drive and winetasting/educational presentation at the Rose City Yacht Club.

Old Business

- A source for new race flags has been identified. Flags are \$12 each and are the same size or larger than the flags currently used by SYSCO. The board approved the race captain to purchase new flags as needed.
- Adding a PHRF element to SYSCO racing:
 - Motion to accept Kerry Poe's offer for running PHRF rating system concurrent with the existing SYSCO level and one design racing format was made, seconded, and unanimously approved by the present board members.
 - Race trophies will be issued in the same format as they have been previously.
 - Local ratings valid for racing in Portland on the Columbia River only will be made available one time initially, free of cost. For subsequent years, boats must acquire a PHRF rating on their own.
 - The initial free Portland Columbia River regional rating will be based on standard ratings. If sails are not measured, the ratings will be set 3 seconds faster.
 - The initial free regional rating will not be adequate for other PHRF events unless the PHRF fee is paid.
 - The board discussed providing a short presentation on the PHRF element at the PYC Sailor's dinner.
 - The board discussed providing the PHRF element for racing this year and next year to observe participation. If participation in the PHRF element is adequate and well received, SYSCO bylaws will be adjusted the third year to provide for a PHRF element.

New Business

- SYSCO Cruising Committee meeting planned for Sunday (2/8) at Bob Brown's. Committee will plan cruising schedule for 2009. Gib Colistro was selected as the permanent SYSCO cruise director.
- New registration stickers were received for Poncho from the Oregon State Marine Board and will be affixed.

Meeting Adjourned

Board Meetings – 1st Monday of Every Month

Next Meeting Location: Mac's Deli (In Lake Oswego on Bangy Road)

Time: 6:30 pm

SAVE THE DATE!
(THE RACEBOOK IS WRONG)



SYSCO

Social & Membership Drive

BYOB AND POT-LUCK

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21

7 - 9 PM

ROSE CITY YACHT CLUB

3737 MARINE DRIVE

*Bring a bottle & an appetizer,
socialize, share stories,
and invite new members.*

