

the

STARTING LINE

March 2011



SMALL YACHT SAILING CLUB OF OREGON



FROM THE COMMODORE

By Jim Sinclair, Commodore

There was actually enough sunshine/non-rain last week that I finally got the green gunk washed off the north side of the boat and gave it a through once-over. She's unwinterized, pumped out, fueled up and ready to go. I don't care what the weather person says, I'm ready for spring!



You'll be happy to know that SYSCO's membership is up (thanks Jan Burkhart) and our finances are on track (thanks Colleen Bennett) and the Board is working hard to ensure we all have a consistently good racing experience on the river this year. We encourage all racers, and especially anyone new to sailboat racing, to join us at the SYSCO Race Clinic to be held at Rose City Yacht Club on Thursday March 24th at 6:30 pm. The following night we will have an on-the-water session at 6 pm in the vicinity of "C" to practice starts and short course mark roundings.

If you are like many sailors and harbor blue water dreams, you're sure to enjoy our next general meeting when Dave King shares his experiences sailing in the single-handed Transpac in his Westsail 32. Join us at Elmer's in Delta Park on March 21st. 6ish for eats, program at 7.

If your only exposure to SYSCO is through the racing program, I encourage you to give a SYSCO cruise a try. You never know who you'll meet, or what tall tales you'll hear, but it's always great fun. Your first chance this year is the Spring Shakedown Cruise to the new Sandy Beach docks on Government Island just east of the I-205 bridge on March 26-27.

Anyway you look at it, spring is right around the corner and SYSCO will be there to help you enjoy it on your boat!

Jim Sinclair
Commodore
S/V Dazzle

BOAT NOT IN THE WATER YET?

Columbia Crossings is offering a special discount to SYSCO members who actively race. The "Racer's Row" discounted moorage at Tomahawk Bay Moorage is only \$99 a month for boats twenty-eight foot and under. Discounts are also available for larger boats. The savings for the season would easily pay for a membership in SYSCO.

Coming Events

SYSCO Meeting

Monday, March 21

Dinner 6 pm — Meeting 7 pm

SYSCO Race Clinic

Thursday, March 24

Rose City Yacht Club, 6:30 pm

Friday, March 25

On the Water Session, 6 pm

Spring Shakedown Cruise

March 26-27

Sandy Beach, Government Island

PYC/SYSCO Opening Day Regatta

April 16-17

First Warning Signal, 1 pm

SYSCO Meeting

Monday, April 18

Dinner 6 pm — Meeting 7 pm

SYSCO Meeting

March 21

Dinner — 6 pm • Meeting — 7 pm



Come listen to special guest speaker
Dave King talk about his adventure
competing in the
2010 Singlehanded TransPac
aboard his WestSail 32.



the Starting Line

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CLUB OF OREGON



P.O. Box 5502
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www.sailpdx.com/sysco.html

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SYSCO RACING — NEWS FROM THE "DITCH"

By Michael Nance, Vice Commodore

Well, if you haven't been participating in the ISR Winter Series, it's time to dewinterize your boat and get that bottom cleaned! Thanks to all of Terry Johnson's efforts, the Winter ISR Series was a huge success with large turnouts every Sunday and some very exciting racing, especially during the second half of the series. The wind gods were not particularly favorable on some of the early races in the season, but this did not deter the hardy sailors on the Columbia River who continued to show up Sunday after Sunday, despite the weather or weather forecast, and in the end got some really good wind.

You folks who race on the Columbia River and in the NW in general continue to impress me. I learned to sail and race in So. Cal on the ocean, which is way different from sailing in the ditch. In my opinion, it is much more difficult to race here than in the relatively calm waters off of So. Cal.

For all of our new members, and of course anyone else who is interested, the SYSCO Race Clinic is Thursday, March 24th and Friday, March 25th. Thursday night will be a chalkboard session at RCYC at 6:30 pm. Friday night will be an on the water session starting at 6:00 pm. The race committee boat will be in the vicinity of mark "C" as designated by the OCSA



Photo by Dale Mack

alphabetic course chart. There will be several practice starts along with a round-the-buoy practice race to the finish. For more info contact Gary Whitney at kasl@comcast.net.

Our racing season kicks off April 16 & 17 with the PYC & SYSCO Opening Day Regatta! This will be two days of racing open to all boats with a current PHRF handicap unless sailing in a one-design or level fleet. Awards will be presented after the last race at the Portland Yacht Club clubhouse.

One week later on Saturday, April 23rd, is the SYSCO Spring Regatta. All PHRF handicapped boats, one-design fleets, and Cruising Class boats are invited to compete. A regatta with more than one race is intended.

Of course the Spring Evening Series is almost upon us, but more on that next month. If anyone is interested in participating on race committee for any of the upcoming races, please contact me. mike@southcoastweb.com

Fair Winds!

SYSCO Race Clinic



Thursday, March 24

Rose City Yacht Club, 6:30 pm

Friday, March 25

On-the-Water Session, 6:00 pm

SYSCO extends an invitation to all skippers and crew to attend this race clinic. SYSCO membership is not required. Novice racers and those new to racing on the Columbia River will find the clinic particularly helpful.

The Thursday evening session will include topics like how to register for a race, how to start and finish a race, how the Race Committee communicates race courses to the skippers via the course board, how restarts and shorten course are handled, local knowledge regarding racing conditions, and any

OCSA rule changes between 2010 and 2011.

Friday's on-the-water session will take place in the vicinity of Daymark "2" near McCuddy's Marine Drive. The session will include several practice starts together with a round-the-buoy practice race to the finish. Experienced skippers will be available for onboard assistance.

For More Information Contact: Gary Whitney at 360.253.2427 or kasl@comcast.net

Photo by Dale Mack

THE PLASTIC PROPELLER

By Gary Bruner, s/v Shamrock

Have you ever seen a plastic propeller for a sailboat? Well, I hadn't, and neither had any of my friends and sailing acquaintances. It came with Shamrock, my 1971 Yankee 30 that I bought about 3 years ago. I assumed that it was a 'low-cost' prop put there by the previous owner who, like me, was somewhat fond of saving a buck!

As it turns out, after a fair amount of research, I learned that this is an Extendo prop from Performance Propeller, a partner with CDI, Cruising Designs International. The story they tell on the website is as follows.

Many older boats, like mine, were originally manufactured with Atomic 4 inboards that typically threw a 12" prop, if not smaller. Then, when folks began to repower with diesels like my Yanmar 2GMF, the necessary reduction gear required a larger diameter prop in order to be effective. But there was often not room for a larger prop to spin on the existing shaft without contacting the hull or being so close to the hull that noise or even oilcanning would result. So, the Extendo filled the bill by having a 10" hub. The forward end fits on the end of the existing shaft, but it functions to extend the blades approximately 6" behind where they were with the original prop. Because of the angle of the shaft, those extra inches in length



correspond to extra room between the prop and the hull. The manufacturer even comments that because of the flexibility in plastic, it actually functions as a bit of a variable pitch prop, though that may have been an unintended consequence.

Frankly, for three years now, I have had no issues while under power with this arrangement. The pictured prop is a 14x11, and I get 5.5

knots at 2200 rpm and 6+ knots at around 2500 rpm. I have had no issues with the fact that it's plastic.

So, if you or someone you know is contemplating a repower from an Atomic 4 to a diesel, this could be your friend. Or, at least you are now the knowledgeable old salt if somebody hauls his boat and says, "What this heck is this thing"?



Share Your Adventure

*SYSCO encourages you to share your boating adventures on the pages of ^{the} **Starting Line**. From cruising and racing, to fleet news and boat modifications, the SYSCO newsletter is a great vehicle for budding authors and photographers.*

Photo by Dale Mack

Spring Shakedown Cruise

March 26 – 27

Sandy Beach, Government Island, West

A SYSCO cruise is held as an informal rendezvous. There is no RSVP, no fees to attend, and no cruise leader. Appetizers are commonly shared.

Don't forget to fly your SYSCO burgee



Photo by Dale Mack

SYSCO Racing Begins in April

April 16—17
PYC and SYSCO
Opening Day Regatta

April 23
SYSCO Spring
Regatta

April 26 & 28
SYSCO Spring
Evening Series

Photo by Dale Mack

PYC & SYSCO Opening Day Regatta — April 16-17

NOTICE OF RACE

INVITATION: Portland Yacht Club and Small Yacht Sailing Club of Oregon invite all eligible boats to participate in the Opening Day Regatta to be held on the Columbia River between the I-5 and I-205 bridges.

DESCRIPTION: This is a two-day regatta consisting of two or more races on each day.

ELIGIBILITY AND INSTRUCTIONS: All boats must have a current and valid PHRF NW rating unless sailing in a one-design or level fleet. If a boat is not listed on the current PHRF-NW roster, a photocopy of the rating certificate or a rater signed PHRF-NW AR Form **MUST** be included with the race entry. A boat racing in a PHRF fleet without a current rating shall be disqualified in accordance with RRS 78.2. Races shall be governed by the current ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the national prescriptions of US Sailing, except as modified by the OCSA Sailing Instructions, the rules of any one-design, level or PHRF fleet participating in the event, the notice of race for the event, or by the supplemental sailing instructions for the event.

DATES AND TIMES: Racing will be on April 16 & 17 and the scheduled warning signal for the first start will be at 1300 hours on both days. Additional races will begin shortly after all boats in an individual class have finished. The starting sequence for finished fleets may begin in any order.

REGISTRATION: Boats must pre-register for this race no later than 72 hours prior to the start. Use an OCSA Race Entry Form and mail with fee to:

Michael Nance
9512 NE 8th St
Vancouver WA 98664

Late registrations will be subject to a \$10 late fee. No on-the-water registrations will be accepted.

FEE: \$30 for all competitors. Please make check payable to SYSCO.

INFORMATION: Contact Michael Nance 503-901-3991 or by e-mail at mike@southcoastweb.com

END OF NOTICE OF RACE

SUPPLEMENTAL SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

CLASS DIVISIONS: Class divisions will be provided to competitors by the Race Committee.

COURSES: Courses from the 2011 OCSA Course Charts or courses set by the Race Committee will be posted on the committee boat.

SCORING: All races will be scored using PHRF time on distance. There will be no makeup races. One completed race shall constitute a series. Boats withdrawing from a race shall notify the Race Committee on the course, if possible.

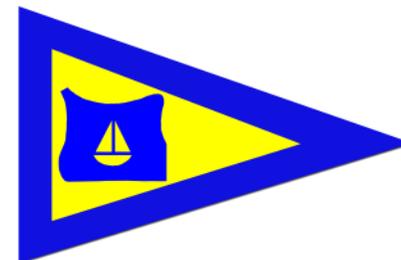
TROPHIES: The number of trophies per fleet will be determined by the number of boats entered by the registration deadline. Awards will be presented after the last race on Sunday at the Portland Yacht Club Clubhouse.

PROTESTS: The protesting boat must indicate their intention to protest to the Race Committee prior to the Committee leaving station. Protests must meet the requirements of the ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing. The written protest must be delivered to the Race Committee or emailed to mike@southcoastweb.com within 2 hours of the finish of the last race each day. Protest forms are available on the web at www.sailpdx.com.

COMMUNICATIONS: Race results will be posted at www.sailpdx.com.

END OF SUPPLEMENTAL SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

SOCIAL: Awards & social event at the PYC Club House Sunday after the race!



Portland Yacht Club presents

2011 Sailors' Dinner

Everyone is
welcome.

Friday, April 15

Social — 6 pm • Dinner — 7 pm

Cost \$20 per person

Reservations must be made by 5 pm,
Tuesday, April 12

RSVP 503.735.0632 or
admin@portlandyc.com

Learn why one of the world's best places for sailboat racing is right in our backyard at Cascade Locks! In 2011, the Columbia Gorge Racing Association will be hosting eight National Championships, five training clinics and many other regattas! The biggest events will include the Collegiate Nationals and the US Single-handed Championships, as well as National Championship Regattas for the Moore 24s, Fireballs, 49ers, and International Moths. Kerry Poe will be narrating the program accompanied by photos and video of some of the major events held in The Gorge.

Still Waiting?

Renew your **SYSCO**
Membership Today

Renewals after February 15 cost **\$90**

The SYSCO membership form can be found at:

www.sailpdx.com/sysco/membership2011.pdf

Please mail the form and your fee to:

Small Yacht Sailing Club of Oregon
PO Box 5502
Portland, OR 97228

Photo by Terry Johnson

SYSCO Spring Regatta — April 23

NOTICE OF RACE

INVITATION: SYSCO extends an invitation to all PHRF handicapped boats and one-design fleets to compete in this regatta on the Columbia River. OCSA recognized level fleets will be treated as a one-design fleet. SYSCO promotes one-design and level class sailboat racing; however, for this SYSCO Spring Regatta, PHRF handicapped boats are specifically invited to participate.

DESCRIPTION: A regatta with more than one race intended.

ELIGIBILITY AND INSTRUCTIONS: A minimum of three starting boats will be required to constitute a PHRF or one-design or level class. PHRF entrants MUST include a copy of their current PHRF rating certificate with their entry. Races shall be governed by the current ISAF “Racing Rules Of Sailing” including the national prescriptions of US Sailing, as modified by the OCSA Sailing Instructions, applicable level or one-design rules, and the supplemental instructions of this notice.

DATES AND TIMES: Saturday, April 23, the first warning signal is at 1300 hours. More than one race is scheduled to be held, racers should remain in the vicinity of the Race Committee after all boats in their class have finished, to receive additional signals from Race Committee. Start sequence for the finished fleet may begin shortly after the last boat finishes. No race will be started after 1700 hours.

REGISTRATION: Use the OCSA Race Entry Form and mail with your fee to:
Michael Nance, 9512 NE 8th St, Vancouver WA 98664

Entry forms for registration not requiring a fee may be emailed to mike@southcoastweb.com. Indicate class preference (PHRF or one-design) on entry form. One-design entrants are expected to confirm a sufficient number of boats to form a class before entry. Entries will not be accepted after 72 hours before the first race, unless accompanied by a \$10.00 late fee. No on-the-water entries accepted.

FEES: \$40.00 for PIYA affiliated yacht club members, \$45.00 for all others. Make checks payable to SYSCO. Entry fees are not required of SYSCO members; however, SYSCO members must register, and are subject to the late entry fee provisions. SYSCO/US Sailing members may request a \$2.00 rebate from the Club Treasurer at any general meeting.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Michael Nance 360-901-3991 email preferred to mike@southcoastweb.com

END OF NOTICE OF RACE

SUPPLEMENTAL SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

CLASS DIVISIONS: PHRF class divisions will be displayed by the Race Committee, as determined by the number of entries received. One-design classes will be displayed as consistent with the SYSCO Fleet List for one-design subclasses and entries received.

COURSES: Courses will be displayed by the Race Committee and may include marks designated by the 2011 OCSA Course Charts. To facilitate timely completion, more than one course may be displayed for each race and classes divided between courses.

SCORING: All races will be scored. Boats racing under PHRF class divisions will be scored with their corrected finish times determined on a “time-on-distance” adjusted basis. Boats racing will be scored using the Low-Point Scoring System of the Racing Rules of Sailing.

TROPHIES: Trophies will be presented at the annual SYSCO Awards Banquet and will be awarded, based on the number of boats starting, and as follows: 3 Boats - 1 Trophy; 5 Boats - 2 Trophies; 8 Boats - 3 Trophies; 11 Boats - 4 Trophies. Classes having fewer than three starting boats will not be awarded trophies.

PROTESTS: The protesting boat must indicate their intention to protest to the Race Committee at the end of the race. Protests must meet the requirements of the ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing (protest form preferred but not required) and be delivered to the Race Committee or emailed to mike@southcoastweb.com within two hours after completion of the last race. Note: protest forms are available on the results page at www.sailpdx.com

COMMUNICATIONS: Race results will be posted at www.sailpdx.com

END OF SUPPLEMENTAL SAILING INSTRUCTIONS





Winter Racing

By Terry Johnson





Winter Racing By Terry Johnson

SYSCO BOARD MEETING MINUTES

By Gary Bruner, Secretary

Minutes from the SYSCO board meeting at Elmer's Delta Park on Monday, March 7, 2011.

Commodore Jim Sinclair 'tinked the glass' to begin the meeting at 7:02 pm. Present were: Jim Sinclair, Colleen Bennett, Jan Burkhart, Michael Nance, Bill Sanborn, Dale Mack, Rich Jones, Tod Bassham, Gary Bruner and fleet captains Steve Spon and George Brown.

Reports

Treasurer: Colleen Bennett distributed a detailed budget. Only one check was written this past month. The check covered supplies for the SYSCO Social. Colleen reported that SYSCO has brought in 56% of projected income thus far. This figure does not represent the dues from fifteen new members.

Colleen reports that SYSCO has spent 6% of the forecasted expense budget. She explained that the 'meeting expenses' appear to be over budget, but that is because certain income, including returned deposits, have not been credited to that line item, but she will change that for the future so the budget more accurately reflects the actual final expenses.

Membership: Jan Burkhart reported that SYSCO has 86 paid members thus far, with a number of them new members. Fifty-two members still haven't renewed.

SYSCO plans to distribute its 2011 Membership Roster to members before serious racing begins. SYSCO will mail reminders to the remaining fifty-two un-renewed members in hopes of getting their dues and information before the roster deadline of March 31st. Rich Jones will send an email to the membership, and Dale Mack will include a reminder in this month's newsletter. If SYSCO still has any unpaid members by the March 21 general membership meeting, the club's officers will begin calling the remainder. If folks pay after the March 31st deadline, their information will not appear in the original printing of the roster but it may show up later in an addendum. The Board decided to mail all rosters in spite of the \$178 cost of mailing. Jan reported that SYSCO still has seventeen burgees left. One is presented to each new member.

A brief discussion about SYSCO's presence on the web took place. Michael Nance has offered to work on the continued improvement of the SYSCO website and may well offer to host a new, improved one.

Racing: Michael Nance presented several issues to the board. Mike has three 'aye' votes from fleet captains on the issue of hiring a paid Principal Race Officer (PRO). With so few fleet captain responses, it was decided to delay a Board decision until after a discussion just prior to the general membership meeting on March 21.

Gary Bruner offered to contact Pancho engineer Phil Campagna and help coordinate the necessary preparation and splash of Pancho prior to the on-the-water portion of the SYSCO Race Clinic on March 25th.

Rich Jones mentioned that someone must take responsibility to refuel Pancho on a regular basis. He suggests that gas be hand carried to the boat before each race event, rather than refueling at Donaldson's. If SYSCO should later decide to hire a PRO, it was suggested that refueling be part of his/her duties.

Mike Nance has offered his boat as the RC boat for the SYSCO Race Clinic. Gary, and or Phil will be on the mark boat.

For the PYC & SYSCO Opening Day Regatta, the RC boat will be provided by Skip Nitchie, PYC's Sailing Captain. Mary and Mike Stainsby of PYC will be assisting with the regatta. Mike is

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(Continued from page 16)

in charge of the trophies and Mary is in charge of the event at PYC after the races on Sunday.

Rich Jones will serve as the PRO for the SYSCO Spring Regatta. Jim Sinclair's boat, Dazzle, will serve as the RC boat. There will be a cruising class in the SYSCO Spring Regatta.

B Fleet still is without a Fleet Captain. Mike was asked to contact Jerry Barnes to find out who will assume that role, or it might have to be assigned.

Due to a scheduling error, two dates still are without an RC assignment: Thursdays, May 19 and June 30.

Jim Sinclair will contact Mark McCuddy of OCSA to check on the required Coast Guard permit necessary to commence racing.

Cruising: Jim reminded those present that the first cruise of the season is a "Shakedown" cruise scheduled for the Sandy Beach dock on Government Island on March 26th. Bring a warm sleeping bag and be prepared to share the dock with the Columbia River All Catalina Association (CRACA).

Program: Tod Bassham reported that everything is on track for Dave King to present at the meeting on March 21st. Dave sailed his West-sail 32, Saraband, in the .Single Handed Transpac last summer. Rich will send an email 'blast'

to the membership as a reminder, and Dale will include it in the March newsletter. Tod reports that he is working on having surveyor Alison Mazon address the April general membership meeting.

Old Business: Reminder that we will have a pre-meeting at 6:45 on March 21st to discuss hiring a PRO prior to Dave King's talk at 7:00.

the **STARTING LINE**

**Deadline
April 10**

Email articles and photos to: Dale Mack

celtic-myst@comcast.net



Photo by Dale Mack



Photo by Terry Johnson