

Starting Line



March 2012

Inside this issue ...

- From the Commodore
- Racing Reminders
- SYSCO Presents: Larry Brandt's Intro to Marine Radar
- SYSCO Feb. 2012 Meeting Minutes
- Calling for Ideas – April Speakers

SYSCO

Small Yacht Sailing Club of Oregon

www.syscosailing.org

From the Commodore

By Michael Nance, Commodore



The Spring racing season is rapidly approaching! We have 86 paid SYSCO memberships already (11 new members) and 23 online race registrations for the SYSCO Spring Evening Series so far.

SYSCO has purchased four new life jackets for Pancho as we are requiring those on the mark boat to wear them at all times. Repairs have begun on Pancho and should be completed by March 22, which is also the evening of the SYSCO Race Clinic at RCYC. The SYSCO Race Clinic On-the-Water is the following evening, March 23. A new VHF external speaker is also being installed on Pancho and all Pancho operators are asked to please monitor channel 72 during the races. This is to facilitate communication with the race committee boat as well as monitor for any competitors that may need assistance on the water.

The RCYC Frostbite Regatta is on Saturday, March 24 and a link to online registration for the event is available at syscosailing.org under race registration.

48 Degrees North magazine has agreed to publish NORs and race results for Portland area regattas this year. I am working with OCSA and Gary Whitney to get the race info submitted and published.

If you haven't already, please renew your SYSCO membership and get your SYSCO Spring Evening



Series race registration in early. There is a 48 hour cutoff prior to the first start of all Series/Regattas this year. *As a reminder, there will be no late registrations or on-the-water registrations accepted this year.*

Fair Winds!

Michael Nance, Commodore

S/V Estrella Del Mar

~~~\_/\_) ~~~



# Racing Reminders

By Warren Dalby

Greetings from your SYSCO race committee. Online registration for the SYSCO Spring Series is up and running. It seems to be going very smoothly. If you haven't registered yet, you can access the site through [www.syscosailing.org](http://www.syscosailing.org) and follow the link to race registration. Make sure you select the correct series: Tuesday or Thursday. You can also see who has already registered at that site. Please remember that the registration will end 48 hours prior to the first race. After that time, no more entries will be accepted. This is a big change from past years' practices. This 48 hour cutoff period will allow our race organizing volunteers to properly set up fleet assignments and deal with the other details without a flurry of last minute changes, so it really is a deadline. The registration site will turn off at the deadline. If you miss it, you will not be able to race in that series, so please don't be late.

You will find the general sailing instructions in the OSCA 2012 Racebook on pages 60-65 and the supplemental sailing instructions, which will include class/fleet assignments and other pertinent information, can be accessed by going to [www.sailpdx.org](http://www.sailpdx.org) and then following a link to Regatta Network.

The link is not up yet but will look something like; [https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet\\_notice\\_board.php?regatta\\_id=4951](https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_notice_board.php?regatta_id=4951). This information will be posted by 10:00 p.m. the day before the race. All of this is a work in progress, and so far the planning and efforts of last year's race captains are making for a smooth change from paper to electronic communication.

You can thank our commodore, Mr. Michael 'Tough Love' Nance, for his efforts in making this happen. It's not a simple thing to get all this to work. We appreciate your understanding and patience as we make these changes.

One last thing:

When we're out on the river,

**LET'S PLAY NICE!**

The registration site will turn off at the deadline. If you miss it, you will not be able to race in that series, so please don't be late.



# SYSCO Presents: Larry Brandt's Intro to Marine Radar

By Randall Poff

Monday, March 19, 2012 at Delta Park Elmer's, 9848 N. Whitaker Rd., Portland, OR 97217, gather for "no-host" dinner and drinks at or after 6 p.m. The presentation starts promptly at 7 p.m.

Fresh from the 2012 Seattle Boat Show, Mr. Brandt's introductory presentation is intended for those about to purchase a radar system (it could well save you big \$\$), and for those who already have radar and wish to better understand the benefits the system offers, and the legal responsibilities it imposes.

Radar can be one of the most valuable marine electronics on your boat. Learn the techniques to use marine radar to its fullest. Issues include radar performance, installation considerations, basic operating and tuning, some of its best uses, and its collision avoidance implications. If you're thinking about radar, or already have it, you owe it to yourself, and to your crew and family, to increase your understanding of this powerful safety and navigation tool.



## About Larry Brandt

Larry is an ASA Advanced Coastal Cruising Instructor and has been a Skipper for Sailing Vessels, Crew for Powerboats. He has particular strength as navigator, and additional experience in the waters offshore

Washington, Strait of Juan de Fuca, Columbia Bar, Puget Sound waters, and Canadian waters. An experienced instructor, Larry has taught American Sailing Association-certified Advanced Coastal Cruising, Navigation and courses. He is also certified by both Oregon and Washington to teach the State-Recognized boater education courses. Check out his web site here: <http://www.coastpilot.com/home.html>

In addition to boating, Larry rounds out his past experiences holding Airline Transport Pilot License (multi-engine), Commercial Pilot License (single-engine, helicopter and seaplane).

SYSCO Membership Meetings are usually held the third Monday of each month. Mr. Brand will be speaking Monday, March 19, 2012, at the Delta Park Elmer's, 9848 N. Whitaker Rd., Portland, OR 97217. Gather for "no-host" dinner and drinks at or after 6 p.m. The presentation starts promptly at 7 p.m.



# SYSCO March 2012 Meeting Minutes

## From the Board

The meeting was held at Elmers, Delta Park on Monday, March 5, 2012. Commodore Michael Nance 'tinked the glass' at 7:01. p.m.

Present were: Michael and Liz Nance, Tod Bassham, Jan Burkhart, Warren Dalby, Randall Poff, Gary Whitney, George Brown, Eric Rimkus and Gary Bruner.

## Reports

**Financial:** Tod Bassham handed out a report that shows we may have a deficit this year, but that he trusts that income has been projected low and expenses higher than what they may well be. The Fleet Night expenses came to \$678.54, but we took in nearly \$300 to offset that expense. Race books from OCSA have all been sold. The Pancho repair budget has been increased to \$1,000, and a decision has not yet been made about whether or not to contact insurance to help pay for the needed repairs to the hull and railing. Anyone rejoining SYSCO will now be charged a late fee, making the total \$90.00 for the season.

## Membership

Jan Burkhart reported that we now have 86 paid memberships, 11 of whom are new. We show 57 people from last year's membership who have not yet renewed. Jan will be emailing them with reminders. A number of online registrations do *not* show any choices made for required volunteer assignments.



Jan will email those people to ask for their choices. OWSA has contacted SYSCO about paying for last year's Pancho rental for several events. Michael will contact them and resolve the question. New member Alison Markel with a Merit 25 named Ataraxia (free from worry) was accepted by my unanimous vote of the board. Jan reports that we need someone with publishing experience to format the information from Regatta Network to get it publishing ready by April 1st. Edie Felix has done this in the past, but is too busy this year. Jan will be asking those who volunteered for Membership volunteer duty, but any qualified person is asked to step up.





## Racing

Warren Dalby reported that we have 23 online registrations for the Spring Series that begins April 24. Great start!

## Pancho

Gary Bruner reported that he has bought four new lifejackets and a storage bag for Pancho, as we are requiring those in the mark boat to wear them from now on. Gary will contact McCuddy's about moorage for the boat, which needs to splash before the 23rd of March for the on-the-water portion of the SYSCO Race Clinic. Gary will try to find help with the splash from those who've volunteered to help with Pancho maintenance. Gary will be going to Bill Brennan's house to take pictures of the damage and help start the repair on Pancho on March 6, 2012.

## Program

Randall Poff explained that he will not be able to attend any Monday evening meetings for some time, so Michael will serve as 'host' for upcoming speakers; the duty includes buying his or her dinner. Randall reports that the general membership meeting scheduled for Elmers on Monday, March 19, will feature Larry Brandt who will discuss an introduction to marine radar. Randall is seeking ideas for upcoming meetings, but one possibility is someone from the Island Sailing Club.

## Old Business

The SYSCO Race Clinic will be held at RCYC on Thursday, March 22, with great information offered to racers, especially those who are new to racing, but many rules are changed this year, so a 'refresher' is recommended. Gary Bruner will do the 'gate duty'. Dale Mack and Gary Whitney will provide the bulk of the content.



Warren Dalby will be in charge of the on-the-water part of the clinic, scheduled for Friday, March 23. Warren will use Pancho as the mark boat. The purpose of this night is primarily to practice starts....

Michael reports that 48 North from Seattle will be happy to publish NORs and results from Portland area racing if we get them the information.

Michael has sent the RC schedule to all the race captains for the season.

Eric Rimkus reminded us all of the OCSA Race Clinic this Wednesday, March 7. He asked that we remind SYSCO members of this free event. Michael had that accomplished before the evening was over. Gary Bruner will write up reminders about the General Membership meeting, the race clinic (s), and the Frostbite and forward to Michael for distribution to the membership.

It was mentioned that we should move the newsletter *forward* a few days to give our newsletter editor, Petra, a weekend to work on it so that the newsletter comes out in timely fashion. The deadline is now Friday, March 9, for the March newsletter. *Pictures are always appreciated.*

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by 'stand-in' secretary,  
Gary Bruner



## Calling for Ideas – April Speakers

Got any ideas for an April speaker? HEY, we're all volunteers here, so...

What programming do you want *your* club to be doing?

Have you been to a membership meeting? Why? or Why not?

Is the day/date/time good or bad?

Is the place good or bad?

What topics do you want to hear about?

Do you have skills, stories or demonstrations to share with the club?

We have no speaker yet on tap for tax day, April 16, 2012. Sailing is w-a-y more fun to talk about than taxes, so, LET ME KNOW!

Randy Poff, SYSCO Program Chair  
S/V Raicilla - Merit 25 USA 97229  
503-241-3141  
Randall.Poff@gmail.com

