



SALT SPRING ISLAND SAILING CLUB

# TellTales

VOLUME 19 • NUMBER 4 • APRIL 2000

## SPRING CLEAN-UP & WORK PARTY

Saturday, April 15th and Sunday, April 16th - 0830 to 1630 hours

*"Spring Clean-up isn't all work!"*

- Coffee and doughnuts in the clubhouse during the morning
- Chili and salad, crusty bread, dessert for lunch
- Traditional late afternoon beer for those who stay the course!

*Saturday-Sunday, May 20-21*

A registration form is included with this TellTales—fill it out and send it in today!

## Round Saltspring 2000



Reserve your **LAMB BBQ TICKETS** before 5th May! Use **ORDER FORM** on the back of TellTales.

More details about the race on page 3 →

## Sailpast on Sunday, May 7th

By Pete Drage, *Fleet Captain Racing*

The Commodore will anchor off the club docks at approximately 1100 hrs.

Fleet Captain Racing, on *DRAGON*, will lead the formation, starting at about 1100, in a large anti-clockwise loop enabling all members to form line astern to begin the ceremony at 1130.

The order of sailpast shall be: Fleet Captain Racing on *DRAGON*, the immediate Past Commodore on *HAREM* leading other Past Commodores, the current Executive led by *VALKYRIE*, all remaining members led by *OSCAR*.

Club burgees should be flown from the most senior position available, see Page 53 of the Yearbook for details. Flag Officers should also fly their pennant.

Powerboats and sailboats will intermix. Sailboats should have their motors on standby for immediate use in case of congestion.

As each boat crosses the stern of *BALLATER*, their national ensign should be lowered to a position about 1/3 from the lower end of the hoist, not so low it ceases to fly. It is to be kept lowered until the Commodore lowers his ensign and starts to re-hoist it.

Having completed your salute please keep clear of the remaining vessels.

The potluck luncheon will be served

once the Commodore has come ashore and entered the clubhouse.

After lunch there will be an on-the-water event for all members.

*Join the first cruise of the season!*  
**The 'Dry Run Cruise'**

Montague - Wallace Island - Home  
*Saturday-Monday, 28 April - 1 May*  
See details on page 2

**Sign up for summer wharfinger duty today!**  
READ ALL ABOUT IT on page 4.

**Visit our club website at...**  
[www.islandsails.com/sailingclub](http://www.islandsails.com/sailingclub)

Here you'll find:

- the latest edition of *TellTales*
- *cruising* schedule for 2000
- complete *racing news*
- and *much more!*

**Save the club A LOONEY!**

If you'd like to read (or download) the electronic version of TellTales instead of receiving the printed version, send an email to [pras@saltspring.com](mailto:pras@saltspring.com) (give it a try: you can get the paper version again if you change your mind).



## Annual Sailpast and Opening Day

*Sunday, May 7th, 2000*

Fleet assembles about 1100 h  
Salute at 1130 h

Pot luck luncheon following the Commodore's welcome.

Please leave your cold or hot dishes (with instructions) at the clubhouse before heading out. *Be sure to read Fleet Captain Racing's Sailpast instructions on this page.*

## Beyond Desolation Sound

Tuesday, April 25, 2000  
at 1900 hours in the clubhouse

**A slide show by Dick Pattinson:**

*'My favourite coves north of Kelsey Bay'*

followed by a

**Meet & Greet social**

where the 'old' members get to meet the new members.

Refreshments before and after.

**30th April is the time to disconnect electrical power to your boat**

## COMING EVENTS

Sat-Sun  
Apr 15-16  
**SPRING CLEAN-UP and WORK PARTY**  
*0830-1630 hours*

Tuesday  
Apr 25  
**CLUB SOCIAL**  
*at 1900 hours*

Saturday  
Apr 28  
**'DRY RUN' cruise**  
*3 day cruise*

Sunday  
May 7  
**OPENING DAY and ANNUAL SAILPAST**  
*at 1100 hours*

Sat-Sun  
May 20-21  
**Round Saltspring Race 2000**  
*Starts at 1000 hours*

**Deadline for the next TellTales is 5th May**

## Commodore's report

Spring is here and the activity on the docks is picking up as we all prepare our vessels for the upcoming season. Steve Thomas once again has completed the task of connecting the potable water.

We enjoyed a full house turnout for a presentation on the Marine Parks of British Columbia by Duart Snow, the Editor of Pacific Yachting Magazine. We were pleased to have a number of members of the Canadian Power and Sail Squadron join us for the evening.

Our club has helped sponsor Orin Brosseau, a young man from Salt Spring Island, who won an opportunity to sail on the *EYE OF THE WIND*, a Tall Ship out of Southampton, England during April. Orin won this opportunity in a contest to represent Canada in the Tall Ship Millennium Challenge. Orin has agreed to give us a talk on his adventures later on in the summer.

On the suggestion of one of our members, Angeline Bate, Les Price has championed our written support to recommend the creation of a new Marine Park on the Thynne Peninsula latitude 50.28.60N, longitude 125.46.50W for inclusion in the BC Marine Park system. This beautiful and heavily wooded peninsula is accessed from the popular Forward Harbour anchorage which is used by mariners who wish to avoid Race and Current Passages by travelling through Whirlpool Rapids. It is an ideal stopover point for recreational boaters and offers protected and scenic moorage. It is also noteworthy that there are no other Marine Parks in this area. Interest in the preservation of the Thynne Peninsula as a Marine Park has been expressed by members of other yacht clubs including the West Vancouver Yacht Club and the Nanaimo Yacht Club.

The major task that is next on our list is to prepare the grounds and docks for the boating season and that activity will take place on Saturday, April 15 and, if needed, on Sunday, April 16 at our annual Spring Work Party. We would like to see as many of you as possible, rain or shine, in order to complete the many tasks and enjoy the company of your fellow members. Bring your gardening and construction tools. Lunch and refreshments will be available.

Also, please mark Sunday, May 7th on your calendar as that is the official opening of the Saltspring Island Sail-

ing Club boating season with our annual Sailpast. We would like to see as many vessels out for this day as possible. The program is indicated on the front page of this issue of TellTales. Glen Willett, our Secretary, has a new supply of club burgees for those in need of one.

You may see some new construction on the docks in the next few weeks as we try to improve the dinghy storage situation. We are also continuing to investigate an opportunity to add fingers to the west side of C dock without compromising the access to E dock. These fingers would improve the orientation of some of the vessels on C dock by facing them into the prevailing wind. We would also be able to accommodate members waiting for dock space. The proposal for the improved moorage will be presented for your consideration at the next General Meeting on May 30th.

There will be a reception for all new members who joined in 1999, in conjunction with the planned social evening on April 25th. This will be an opportunity to meet many of the new members and enjoy a slide presentation by Dick Pattinson who has sailed our waters for many years. Please come out and welcome the new additions to our boating fraternity. As well, we would like to see as many new and old members as possible on our first 'Dry Run' cruise of the season. These cruises are an excellent way to familiarise yourself with the local area.

As is the case each year we have a great number of Yearbooks which have not been picked up by members. We ask that you pick up your copy along with your membership card and the free 'Saltspring Island Sailing Club' window sticker as soon as possible. They are in the foyer of the club. If you are visiting other reciprocal yacht clubs you will require your membership card. We will be removing the remaining year books to the basement office after the annual Sailpast on May 7th.

See you at the Spring Work Party Saturday, April 15th.

—John Farquharson, *Commodore*

## Getting ready for the first cruise of the season: the 'Dry Run' on 28th April

OK! We have scrubbed the decks and swashed the buckles for the Commodore's Sailpast... now it's time to have a bit of fun! The first of the cruises is about to begin!

Leave behind the chores and the problems and come out to the first of the cruises. This one is the only one for which I don't need your advanced notice (but it would sure help!), so plan ahead, or plan a last minute fun time... but plan to be a part of the cruise, in total or in part!

Here are the plans:

On Saturday 28 April, we will cruise to Montague and have the first of the BYOB happy hours at 1600 hours and tell tall stories of our travels and our problems of the winter. Those who want to, can go to the Hummingbird Inn for a dinner. Those of us who prefer to have our BBQ on board will have equal fun.

In the morning, we are off to Conover Cove on Wallace Island where we will have a BYOB & BBQ on the wharf or in the pavilion, depending on numbers... and continue those winter tales. Even more important, we all want to know what your cruising plans and boating dreams are for the summer. Bring your portable BBQ.

The notice regarding 'The Winery Tour' cruise of 15-18 May will be in the May TellTales, but don't forget to put it on your calendar and to call me (at 537-1345) with advance notice a week ahead so I can tell the winery.

When you are on the water, monitor channel 9 for the tricks of how to enter the Cove. We will be there, so stay in touch!

Anyway, ..... come on, join in the fun!

—Jim Ganderton  
*Fleet Captain, Cruising*

**TellTales** is published ten times a year by the Salt Spring Island Sailing Club  
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## RACING NEWS

### Bas Cobanli Memorial Trophy

Saturday May 13th

Start: Long Harbour,  
Salt Spring Island at 1100 hours

#### THE INVITATION

The Long Harbour Racing Association is pleased to invite all friends, competitors, fellow club members, and admirers of Bas Cobanli to participate. The race is dedicated to celebrating the memory, skill, achievement, tenacity and pure sailing brilliance of our dear friend and mentor Bas Cobanli—member of the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, Saltspring Island Sailing Club and Long Harbour Racing Association.

The racing season is continuing as scheduled with increasing attendance. I have received several positive comments on the new skippers' meeting format.

The Round Saltspring 2000 race arrangements are falling into place, all sub committees reporting positively at a recent meeting. Entries are starting to come in. All of last year's sponsors have signed up again and we have received an additional boost from Gulf Island Brewery who are supplying a commemorative beer glass at a subsidised price. This glass will have the brewery logo on one side and our race logo on the opposite side. One glass will be given to each skipper entering.

For the Friday evening entertainment we have booked the local band Swing Shift, making the pre-race evening an attraction for all members, not just the racing crowd.

I believe everything is in place for a successful event.

—Pete Drage, *Fleet Captain Racing*

### Racing crews wanted

Several skippers are looking for crew on boats racing in club events, including Round Saltspring 2000 and the Wednesday evening summer series.

This is a great chance to learn and have some fun. Experience, while an asset, is not necessary if you are keen.

If you are interested, please add your name to the crew roster posted on the racing board in the club foyer. Skippers will contact you direct.

John Farquharson's  
BALLATER, Stuart  
Farson's ATALANTA,  
and Dick Pattinson's  
GWAHIR getting  
ready for the start

Start of the Portland  
Island - Moresby Island  
Race on 9th April



### Custom T-shirts for Round Saltspring 2000

Would you like a Round Saltspring 2000 T-shirt with your boat's name on it?

This year the shirts will be yellow, Gildan 10.5 oz, with a coloured embroidered logo. They will sell at the event for \$15. Until May 1st you can order your shirts customised with your boat's name under the logo for only \$2 more.

**How to order:** Write your boat's name and the size of shirt(s) you want to buy on a piece of paper and put it, together with a cheque for the full amount, in the Fleet Captain Racing's box in the clubhouse. No orders after May 1st please. Shirts will be available for pick-up on the Friday evening prior to the race.

The Friday night will feature a chili supper, a bar, and entertainment by Swing Shift, our local hot swing band.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find an entry form for this year's race. Entry is limited to 75 boats so please get your entry in early, it's cheaper and you get to go in the early bird draw. It also makes the volunteers' job a little easier.



### MINKE for sale

Great Dane 28, built in 1970. Full keel sloop with 25 hp inboard Volvo Penta diesel and a full complement of sail, including fully battened mainsail. Well maintained, fully equipped cruiser and successful racer. A local favourite. Alaska and Hawaii veteran. Same owner for 20 years. \$25,000. Please contact Tony Meek at 537-4027 or email [tonymeek@saltspring.com](mailto:tonymeek@saltspring.com) if you are interested.



*Blue-eyed Mary as seen around the islands at this time of year.*

## Right around home

(Domestic flowers are lovely—but try this for a beautiful spring awakening.)

### **The purple carpet**

By Chris Pattinson, *GWAIHIR*

Setting out from the Sailing Club dock, the two of us and our daughter planned to spend an hour on a warm sunny afternoon taking a short shake-down cruise around Ganges Harbour. The 26 foot sailing vessel *GWAIHIR* was in a mess of spring cleanup with tools, green sail covers, blue tarps, and tins of white paint, and the smell of fresh paint mingled with cries of, "Watch that whisker pole—the paint's wet!"

By shoving aside some of these items we made room for three new floater cushions in their bright orange covers and sat back to enjoy the warm sunshine of mid-March. With no wind to fill the sails, we started the little diesel engine which, after a few puffs of grey smoke, settled down to a steady hum. We untied the mooring lines, cast off and, slowly at first, then at a steady four knots, we motored east towards the Three Sisters, that group of small islands near the mouth of Ganges Harbour.

As we passed Second Sister, the one with the red flashing beacon, our daughter noticed large patches of bluish-purple vegetation on the rocky outcroppings along the south shores of the island. We approached closer, the deep water there accommodating us, and with the help of binoculars, we found the stony bluffs were aglow with early spring flowers, Blue-eyed Mary, pink Sea-blush, and a sprinkling of Woolly Sunflowers and white Field Chickweed.

In early spring and on through June, whole ledges and slopes of coastal bluffs reflect an enchanting sky colour

## It's time again to sign up for wharfinger duty

The sign-up board for daily wharfinger duty for this coming boating season is now posted in the clubhouse foyer. You are requested to fill it in as soon as possible. Daily service is from 1300 to 1900 hours. There will be a short meeting in early May, at the clubhouse, to go over the routine. You are invited to attend, and particularly those members who are new to the club. The date and time will be announced in the next TellTales. It is hoped that all members volunteer at least once during the season, as it is a great way for you to achieve and/or contribute toward your expected annual work requirement to the club and, at the same time, get to know other members.

—Tom Locke, *Wharfinger*

## The social scene

The B.C. Marine Parks slide presentation at the end of March was a huge success. Duart Snow of Pacific Yachting gave us a tantalizing taste of what is out there. Make use of the parks; through the club we support the purchase and maintenance of these parks. If you haven't already purchased the Guide to the B.C. Marine Parks, have a look at the publication at Volume II.

Have you noticed how full the parking lots are? The boats are getting scrubbed top to bottom, inside and out. Lots of gossiping and tale telling down on the docks.

April is a busy month. Spring Clean-up on April 15–16th. Tuesday, April 25 is our monthly social (see details elsewhere in TellTales). April 29, 30 and May 1 is the first club cruise, and the racers are out there hoping for wind April 9 and April 30. Something for everyone. Join in the fun.

—Mary Neil, *Staff Captain*



*The clubhouse decked out in finest spring green*

as the dainty annual, *Collensia Grandiflora*, or Blue-eyed Mary, opens its buds. Clusters of bluish-lavender and azure-blue touches of white, rise above the small whorls of narrow elliptical leaves. Named for an early American botanist, Zacheus Collins, no one really knows if 'Mary' refers to the Mother of Jesus, but the blue eyes refer to the two visible lobes of this dainty little half-inch flower. Growing to heights of 2 to 10 inches, Blue-eyed Marys brighten mossy and grassy ar-

reas up to moderate altitudes and as far east as the Cascade Mountains.

As we cruised slowly past the rugged, rocky slopes, we felt a rising sense of joy in the natural world so close to home. These choice dainty flowers are one of Nature's re-awakenings as they form a brightly coloured mantle in spring, drop seeds in autumn and return year after year to carpet the rocky harshness of these age-old islands with purple beauty.