



SALTSPRING ISLAND SAILING CLUB

TellTales

VOLUME 26: NUMBER 7: September 2007



Commodore's Report

By Nick Hodson

Despite the relatively poor weather I hope everyone enjoyed the summer, and managed to spend time on their boat. Vicky & I spent a pleasant few weeks in the Broughtons, despite the rain. Let's hope for an Indian Summer.

A warm welcome to Linda Reynolds as our new TellTales editor. She has many exciting new ideas and I'm sure she will do a great job. Please support her by providing contributions and ideas. Many thanks to Harold and Candace Brochmann for their hard work as editors over the last year.

With great regret I have to report the recent death of Bryan Zapf. Bryan was a great contributor to the club and despite his failing health did a superb job as chair of the Round Salt Spring committee this year. He will be greatly missed.

At the General meeting on September 25th we will be putting forward final proposals for the pier project. The final quotations are not in yet so we cannot provide any details here, but this is a major undertaking and one that will affect most members. Please attend to have your opinions heard.

Unfortunately we had no volunteers to organize the Pub Night for September. This is a great shame as it appeared to be a popular event. However we cannot continue to rely on the same members to organize events time after time. If you are prepared take this on, even if only for one month, please contact me.

September 2007

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- 4th 1900 Board Meeting
- 9th 1030 Montague Harbour Race
- 23rd 1030 Channel Isles Regatta
- 25th 1900 General Meeting
- 30th 1800 Salmon BBQ

October 2007

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- 2nd 1900 Board Meeting
- 14th 1030 Captain Passage Race
- 23rd 1900 Social-Oktoberfest
- 28th 1030 Jack Langdon Trophy Race



SALMON BBQ
 Sunday
 September 30th 1800hrs
 Tickets: \$12.00
 available at ARTSPRING

**CALLING ALL MEMBERS:
 Reminder...
 Special General Meeting
 Tuesday,
 September 25th 1900hrs
 at the Clubhouse
 (agenda on back page)**

WHARFINGER'S REPORT

by Hugh Preddy

The sign-out board located on the dock next to the public phone has been modified so when members leave their slips vacant more than two concurrent days they need only indicate their slip number and expected date of return, not the member's name nor the start date of the departure. There has been concern expressed in past that showing a member's name could advertise their absence from the island and expose their residence to possible break-in and or theft. A slip layout has also been added to assist both members and duty wharfingers in identifying the slip numbers.

Reciprocal guests counts are up this year and we appreciate the member's co-operation by filling in the sign-out board. Everyone cruising the Gulf Islands wants to visit Ganges and we received many positive comments regarding our open hospitality and helpful duty wharfingers. The picnic tables were well used by guests for happy hour and impromptu meetings.

Annual moorage and electrical fees are due at the end of October. Should any member wish their planned winter electrical consumption tested beforehand so they know what payment to submit, I will gladly measure it.

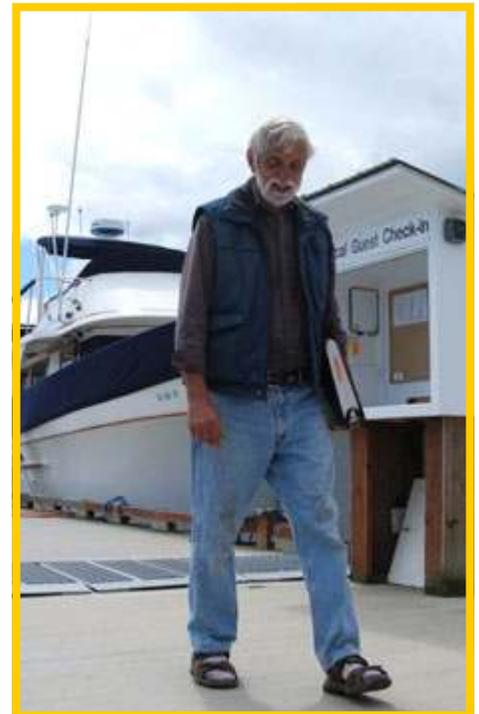
DAILY WHARFINGER'S REPORT

by John Myers—Daily Wharfinger Coordinator

To my delight and surprise the Daily Programme was a great success this year and there was no need to resort to the drawing of lots to fill vacant spots. I refute the claim that some have made that the fear of my calling on members to volunteer was enough to cause a stampede into signing up. On the contrary it was the willingness of nearly 50 members who signed up for, in many cases, double or triple duty that made my Summer easier. There were some who went event further. Derek Barrio and Jon Healey carried out 4 duties. John Andrews and Lois Sprague each signed up for 6 and the Grand Champion, George Manners was on deck 6 times. Fair winds and sunny skies to all those who made my life so easy this year. If I miscalculated and missed your name my apologies. And for the over 100 members who did not participate then next year please consider taking part in this most important Club activity.

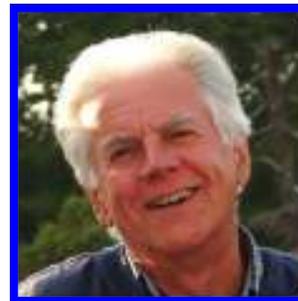


New club member's sign-out board



Hugh Preddy on Wharfinger Duties.

NEW FEATURE—Ask the Expert?



**This month's guest expert:
Derek Barrio on "Mechanical Matters"**

Dear Derek: HELP !!!! We came limping into the Sailing Club with the engine running pretty rough almost to the point of stalling. I suspect a fill-up with contaminated fuel. What's my next step and do I need to "bleed the line" on my engine? Thanks, RM

ANSWER: If there were no symptoms of rough running prior to the occasion you stated, my first suspicion would be an inadequate fuel supply due to:

- A) a loose hose clamp allowing air to enter the fuel supply or,
- B) A plugged fuel supply line or plugged filter causing the lift pump to draw in air where it can.

The engine will usually stop running if throttled down to idle.

One dose of "dirty fuel" is unlikely to cause a problem unless it was mostly water. Speaking of water, it is a common problem with diesel fuel tanks to have a small quantity of water in the bottom of the tank caused mostly by condensation of moisture in the air space if the tank isn't kept topped up. Microbial organisms and bacteria live in the diesel/water interface and form a slime that can plug the suction tube that supplies fuel to your engine. Should this be the problem you'll have to clean out the whole system and bleed the injectors anyway.

Hi Derek: I have a diesel engine and need some recommendations regarding oil changing and monitoring. Should the filter be changed routinely with the oil or, more often. Appreciate your advice. LM

ANSWER: Change the oil and the filter every 150 hours if you operate the engine at the recommended cruising rpm. Change them at 100 hours if you push higher speeds. Protect your investment and always replace the filter at oil change time. If it's a new engine, the filter is busy collecting up tiny bits of metal that slough off the parts as they settle in. An older engine will contaminate the oil with carbon particles and other products of combustion that the filter has to try to keep away from the heavily-loaded crankshaft bearings. Schedule the draining and refilling for the end of your boating season so that the engine spends those long damp winter months topped up with nice clean oil.

Get connected to Next Month's guest expert—Bob Reynolds on "Anything Electrical". Send in your questions to, sistelltales@yahoo.com or drop them off to the TellTales box at the club.

DOCKSIDE—News and Views of our Members

VOLUNTEERISM – You are important

Xvxn though my typxwritxr is an old moxl it works quitx wxll xxxcpt for onx of the kxys. I'vx wishxd many timxs that it workxd prxfxctly, but just onx kxy not working makxs a big diffxrxncx. Somxtimxs it sxxms to mx that our group is somxwhat likx thx typxwritxr – not all thx kxy pxoplx arx working propxrlly. You may say, “Wxll, I'm only onx pxrson. It won't makx much diffxrxncx.” But thx group nxxds thx participation of xvxy pxrson. Thx nxxt timx you think your xfforts, and your prxsxncx, arxn't nxxdx, rxmxbxr thx typxwritxr, and say to yoursxlf, “I'm a kxy pxrson – I'm nxxdx, and I'd bxtter bx thxrx.”

Many thanks to Dick Pattinson for this submission !



Harold Brochmann has submitted this photo of the Robertson II's rescue attempts which have sadly been abandoned after a nine-day effort to raise her. A memorial and foremast marker are hopefully going to be erected on Saturna Island in honour of the heritage ship. Thanks for memories Harold!



The Arnott's back from a cruise.

“Hatched” - Marc Lalonde spends the day cleaning MABUHAY.



Tony Meek “on the grid” taking care of some repairs on MINKE.



FEATURE STORY—POB's (Pets on Board)

Crispin, Nyika, Tilly, Quincy and Carmen..... but a few of the familiar names and faces that frequent the docks of SISC. Always ready to greet you with a smile and a paw shake, these well-seasoned cruisers don their stylish PFD's and come provisioned with litter boxes, treats, leashes, pooper-scooper and kibble readying for the adventure. Proving, pets need weekends too!

Cruising with your pet can be an enjoyable experience or a nightmare and, whether on land or on sea, it's all in the training. Before taking your pet on board for the first time, ask yourself a few questions:

1. Does your pet tolerate a harness and leash?
2. Does your pet get over-excited in new and unfamiliar situations?
3. Does your pet get carsick?
4. Is your pet old?
5. DOGS:
 - * Does your dog respond to commands (come, heel, stay down)?
 - * Is your dog prone to barking or nipping at strangers?
 - * Will your dog use newspapers if there is no land in sight?
6. CATS:
 - * Does your cat respond to commands (come, down, up)?
 - * Is your cat a fussy eater?
 - * Is your cat an "indoor" cat?



"Be prepared for a hairy mess on board", this advice comes from April Steel who is constantly vacuuming up Quincy's fallout. "Ease of reboarding especially for larger and older dogs is also a concern", remarks April and, "a walk-through stern is definitely the way to go".

Starting out slow and on short jaunts acclimatizes your pet to the environment and motion of the boat. Often it is difficult for them to develop "sea legs" so keep their physical restraint and safety in mind. Some pets require a reacquainting session with every new boating season. Use of a crate or carrier is also useful but again, it's all in the training and what the pet is used to.

Russell Logan transports his exotic cat Xena in what looks like a *haute couture* traveling carrier. "She's right at home and snug-as-a-bug in there, states Russell.

Vicky & Gary Morrison's cat Blanca was a socialite dockside, visiting anyone who would invite her on board. Consequently she had to be leashed and confined to her own boat. Having a scratching post down below attached to a table leg or mast keeps them busy and away from your cushions or dock lines. Gary suggests using crystal kitty litter and not the clay-based ones. "It's definitely more expensive but lasts longer and, safer on the environment". Another suggestion from the Morrison's is to have a fuzzy towel or carpet on the side of the boat just in case you have a COB (cat overboard) as this provides them with a hold-on to sink their claws into for reboarding.

Provisioning for your crew is often a daunting task especially for long-distance cruising but for pets, don't count on the anchorage's local tackle shop to have your brand or, any selection, of pet food. Pack for the entire trip. Changing diets mid-stream may result in an unexpected gastro-intestinal disaster. It's suggested by many pet owners to feed dry kibble before setting out as this helps off-set seasickness.

Pets also require their own First Aid Kit. Seek advice from your veterinarian as to what needs to be packed. Antibiotics and anti-diarrheal medications are all specific to pets and human drugs can not be used. Be aware of expiration dates as last-year's Amoxicillin tucked away all winter in a cupboard may have little or no effect when needed.

Lastly, make sure your pet is well identified with ID tags, contact numbers and up-to-date vaccination information just in case they go AWOL.

Enjoy cruising with your pet as the greatest of adventures can be shared with your best friend.

Some helpful web sites: <http://www.thecruisinglife.com?page=pets>
<http://www.petcentric.com/article.aspx?C=1&OID=131>
<http://www.maxumboats.com/articles.asp?chaid=65732>
Some helpful books: *Cruising With Your Four-Footed Friends: The Basics of Travel with Your Cat or Dog* by Diana Jessie (Author)





'Commo-dog' TILLY and her master Nick Hodson having a quick snooze in the Broughtons.

Pets On Board

by
Linda
Matteson-
Reynolds

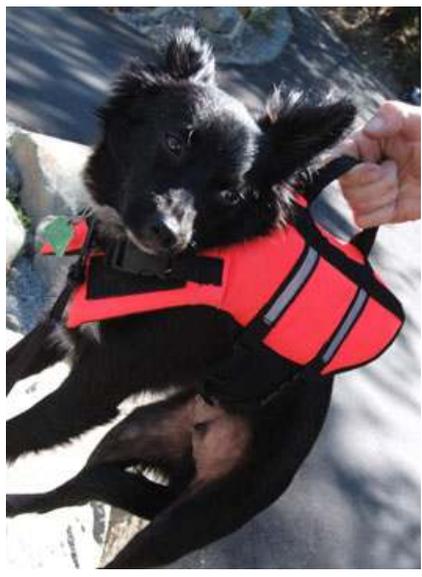
**"Dogs come to you when they are called; cats take a message and get back to you"
.....Mary Bly**



QUINCY is ready for a day's outing on April & Gary's Catalina, Wind Wench.



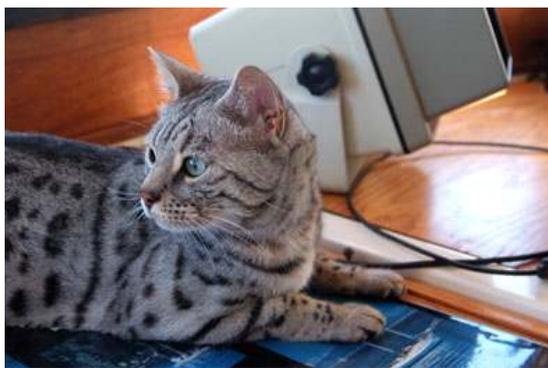
The Thorne's Birman cat CARMEN makes herself right at home on their Nordic Tug ,Bluebird



Hurricane Katrina rescue dog AUGIE, shows off her easy-lift life jacket.



Visitors to the club.



XENA shows Russell Logan who's in charge of the navigation on Ruby drue.



Jon Healy escorts MADDIE out for her morning constitution.

.....the Racing Forum

The Wednesday night races have come and gone, and the results are posted on the web site. Post-race libations were de rigueur, and the picnic benches on the breakwater have turned out to be worth their weight in gold (which makes them worth a fortune!).

Coming “big-boat” races include the Channel Is Regatta Sunday September 23rd, Captain's Passage Sunday October 14th, and Jack Langdon Sunday October 28th.

I plan on presenting IMP at a coming “Open Boat”. Other members have volunteered, and will have a chance as well.

See you on the water,

Greg Slakov—Fleet Captain Racing

FRIDAY NIGHT DINGHY RACE

We have had a rather lackluster summer as far as weather goes, but one bright spot has been the Friday Night Dinghy “Races”, which have occurred religiously since June, and will continue into the Fall, starting at about 4:30 or 5:00. With an average of about 5 to 7 sailors participating, we have varied our program, from playing follow the leader, to holding about 5 short races, to cruising through the anchorage, to planning back and forth in a stiff breeze; we have had a lot of fun. The club has (about) ten lasers and five 420's, so we still have room for more participants. Do not worry if you are not an experienced racer, because we have quite a range of experience represented, and everyone tries to help everyone else. I would like to thank Rob Irving (Fleet Captain Dinghy) and Martin Herbert (our chief instructor and a very talented sailor) for making this program so successful this summer. If you are interested, please note that as the weather gets colder, wet- or dry-suits will become necessary at some point.

Call me for more info at 537-1309. - Greg.



Three race boats looking for some wind.



Member, Scott Simmons is up the mast after a Wednesday evening race on IMPOSSIBLE.



SKIPPERS—Looking for Crew?

Check out the web site www.saltspringsailing.ca for a list of able-bodied seamen & women eager for some sailing experience.



Racer, Norbert Schlenker tidying up his lines after the race.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

by Vicky Morrison

Welcome back to the autumn season on Saltspring Island. It was a summer of mixed weather, (referred to by some as our summerless summer). Maybe this mean a winterless winter is in store for us! It would be nice to have a lovely long autumn season, followed by a mild winter. Hopefully all members of the club, cruisers, sailors and those who enjoyed other forms of holiday took full advantage of the summer season and had a good time.

The secretarial responsibilities geared down for the past few months, but I am now getting back into the swing of things and looking forward to the upcoming activities. An enormous thank you to Greg Harmeson for his assistance during July and August in being available for advice and interview sessions.

At the September 4th Board Meeting, approval for regular membership was granted to Derek and Susan Castle. They are recent newcomers to Saltspring Island (relocating from Ontario) - have recently sold their power boat and are in search mode to acquire another power boat more suitable for coastal cruising. A warm welcome is extended to Derek and Susan.

The Board also approved Junior Membership for Oliver Cannon and Rhys Finer. Welcome to the Saltspring Sailing Club as Junior members. It is nice to have the younger members enthusiastic about learning to sail and becoming involved in our club.

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

by Russell Logan

SUMMER'S EVENTS:

- Parking Lot paving took place on July's hottest day 98 degrees F or 36 degrees C by Vancouver Island Paving Company.
- The drainage system was installed and donated by Norm Elliott.
- The area below the lower parking lot is being cleared and planted with the same shrubbery as on the other side to stabilize the bank from erosion.
- Painting assignments will be posted on the chart in the clubhouse lobbysign up now..... why rake leaves on a rainy day in November when you can paint outside in sunny September.
- The fire/rescue cylinder (starboard side post) at the gate contains the gate key. This has been installed to allow Fire and Ambulance Emergency crews immediate access to the dock.
- Club-house bookings are still coordinated through Susannah Devitt at 537-2570
- Firewood available in the lower parking lot—help yourself!!!!

Any questions regarding painting assignments
please call Russell at 538-0105



Russell Logan demonstrating some fancy sweeping during the repaving project.



REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

by Gene Drzymala

Seaward tipping of the northern breakwater has been corrected by adding 6 air filled floatation tanks. This work was done by Island Marine Construction Ltd.

The breakwater connecting bridges, south of C-dock, continue to be a problem, due to wave action caused by speedsters. We are grateful to Bob Shaak for his continual vigilance and repeated repairs to these bridges.

Thank you Trevor Haddow for your work on these bridges.

Bob Reynolds has managed to keep our members happy, by repairing power problems, as they crop up.

We will address the "tippy" finger floats sometime in the near future.

Thank you all for keeping your docks clean and for doing any repairs you recognize.

The Pier Committee should have recommendation for our pier reconstruction at the September membership meeting.



Waiting for haul-out to Ganges Harbour, the "SISC 5 knots MAX" sign.

SOME HELPFUL HINTS

NOISE PREVENTION: Don't you just hate that "clanging" noise that comes from in-mast wiring as your boat bobs around at anchor or dockside. Try covering the wiring with foam-rubber pipe insulation. Use enough to cover the complete length, or tape sections at regular intervals. Alternatively, tape on pieces of sponge rubber every two feet (the pieces should be wide enough to touch the sides of the mast). When you pull the wires up, all will fit snugly, precluding any shifting.

BARNACLES ON YOUR DINGHY??? Soft-bottom boats get foul too. The putty-knife scraper that works on your big boat will destroy an inflatable instead, try to remove barnacles by scraping with a plastic applicator or a small block of soft wood. Another good scraper for inflatables is a piece of PVC pipe. Hold it upright to scrape flat surfaces. Prevention is the best way to deal with barnacles. Purchase an antifouling coating for your dinghy.

IT'S A FACT.....Conventional 2-stroke outboards discharge up to 25% of their fuel/oil mixture straight into the water—just think, if you used 20 gallons (76 litres) of fuel you might as well have poured a 5 gallon (19 litre) can of gas and oil in to the water.

NEWS FROM THE SALT SPRING ISLAND POWER & SAIL SQUADRON

This year's CPS Boating Course will be held in January 2008. A Maritime VHF-DSC Course may be held this fall if there are enough interested parties. Please contact Anthony Thorne, Training Officer at 537-4938 or, Bob Reynolds, Commander at 537-1195.



DID YOU KNOW?

The ROC(M) License is a Canadian Federal Government issued card that allows you to operate a marine VHF radio. ROC stands for Restricted Radiotelephone Operator's Certificate and is required by: anyone using a marine VHF radio or other marine radios (each person on the boat who will use the radio needs their own card). There are significant fines if you are found using a VHF or marine radio without your card. In addition, if you received your ROC card before the new Digital Selective Calling was introduced, then you are encouraged to return and get your DSC endorsement for your ROC card.

All new VHF radios are now being sold with a DSC function that will greatly enhance rescue personnel's ability to assist you in an emergency. Understanding this technology and how to operate it can, in some circumstances, mean the difference between life and death.

**BE SMART, BE SAFE, TAKE THE COURSE,
GET YOUR CARD !!!**

WOMEN ON THE WATER.....from the Feminine Side

Be it on the Starboard or Port, the Ladies are an integral part of the Saltspring Island Sailing Club and now, have the opportunity and venue to stand up and be heard. Stories from past Ladies Cruises, handling difficult onboard situations, first-aid at sea, provisioning ideas, cruising with kids.....let's hear from you. We all have a story to tell or a helpful hint to pass along.

sistelltales@yahoo.com

CRUISING WITH GRANDCHILDREN: Jenny Barrio recommends starting them out slow, "short-trip cruising while they get their sea-legs is my best advice", she suggests. A good supply of family board games and books keep them occupied along with their galley duties. Her technically-minded 10 and 12 year-old grandsons are even learning the basics of GPS and navigation this year.

STICKING CANVAS SNAPS: Overtime the canvas snaps can be difficult to open or close. A tube of "CHAPSTICK" rubbed over the male snap will usually solve the problem and is not sticky..... from Karen Preddy





Meet "BOB" the Jr. Sailing Program's MOB melon-in-a-lifejacket.

JUNIOR SAILING PROGRAM

by Rob Irving—Fleet Captain Dinghy

The summer Sailing School was very successful and we had approximately 150 students and 16 adults who took part in sailing lessons during the 8 weeks the Sailing School was open. Two new courses, Family Sailing and Laser Racing were well received and undoubtedly will be offered next summer.

Friday night Dinghy Racing will continue into September and possibly October if there is enough interest.

Hopefully the poor weather in the summer means a wonderful September for sailing.....see you out there.



Nice toss....students practice their line throwing skills on the dinghy dock.



STAFF CAPTAIN'S REPORT

by Jill Sydneysmith



Welcome back to those who were able to "get away" this summer with such variable weather conditions.

Our first social this fall will be the Wild Salmon BBQ to be held on September 30th at 1800 hours. Advance tickets can be purchased at ARTSPRING for \$12.00 per person. The deadline for purchasing tickets is September 27th. The theme this year is the 1960's if you *wish* to dress up but, it is not mandatory. There will be prizes for best costume etc... I need help in the Galley for the set-up and clean-up, chefs for the Salmon BBQ, and a couple of judges for the most original, funniest, and overall "best" costume.

Please, please, please, we are still looking for members to run the bar for socials. You will need "Serving It Right" accreditation (it is very easy to do this) and the club will pay the fees.

I can be reached at home - 537-5980, on my cell - 537-7629, or by email treetops@uniserve.com

Looking ahead, October 23rd is the date for the Oktoberfest Potluck. Mark your calendars!



"Saturday morning was the start of the Pirate's theme and around eleven a treasure map appeared and the hunt began "

Coming soon.....to read more of this hair-raising, shiver-me-timbers escapade with additional pictures of the savage Motley Crew, read October's Issue of TellTales.

**Saltspring Island Sailing Club
Special General Meeting
Tuesday September 25th 2007
AGENDA**

Call to Order 1900 hours

Commodore's remarks

Minutes of May 29th 2007 GM

Business arising from minutes

Treasurer's report

Report of officers;

Vice Commodore
Rear Commodore
Fleet Captain , Cruising
Fleet Captain , Racing
Fleet Captain , Dinghy
Wharfinger
Staff Captain
Past Commodore

New Business

Pier Renovation

Adjournment



SISC's local Swan Family



From the Editor's Desk.....

My first edition of TellTales is on the web and in the post, after a steep learning curve on Microsoft Publisher over the summer. Many thanks to Harold Brochmann and Nick Hodson for their patience and tutelage.

Creating a publication that appeals to every member is indeed a challenge and it is my hope to introduce some new features such as "Ask the Expert", "Dockside—News and Views of our Members" and a monthly "Feature Story" that will hopefully pique everyone's interest. Continuing items will be our monthly calendar of events/socials, Board Member's Reports, new member introductions and of course, lots of pictures. I've enjoyed roaming the docks this summer with my camera and members have been very gracious about posing. My only regret is that I can't publish everyone's photo. This month's Feature, "POB's—Pets on Board" has been a real treat to write and photograph and I would like to dedicate it in memory of Humphrey, Harold & Candace Brochmann's little black Scottish Terrier that passed away this summer. His spirit will be missed but not forgotten.

Member input and feedback are essential nutrients to keeping TellTales alive and I welcome your ideas, stories and comments. Email at sisctelltales@yahoo.com

See you next month,

Linda

Linda Matteson-Reynolds