

Tell Tales

Volume 30 • Number 4 • April 2011



Calendar

April 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

- 5th 1900 Board Meeting
- 7th 1600 RSSI Committee Meeting
- 9th 0830 Spring Work Party
- 10th 1000 Bas Cobanli Trophy Race
- 24th 1000 Moresby/Portland Race
- 29th 1800 Fashion Show Pub Night

May 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- 1st 1100 Opening Day Sailpast
- 1st 1330 No Flying Sails Race
- 3rd 1900 Board Meeting
- 8th 1000 Sailing School Open House & Registration
- 20th-22nd Round Salt Spring Race Weekend
- 20th-23rd Daphne Isle Cruise
- 31st 1900 General Meeting



Is Lawrie Neish building: (a) a wooden space capsule; (b) a very large birdhouse; (c) the new replacement for Yellow Max; or (d) an extremely high-fibre giant muffin? The answer is (c) and we can't wait to see what it looks like finished. More Spring Work Party photos start on page 3.

Commodore's Report

by Gary Morrison



A good deal of the Board's time over the last month has been spent on long term planning. We started out by gathering data to study trends and correlations over the past 25 years and to define our current state. Leafing through the Yearbooks from 1982 onward to extract data was a moving experience; I gained a much deeper appreciation of how we arrived at where we are now.

Next, the Board and recent past Commodores prepared a strategic analysis of our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. We then drafted a statement of vision, based on an analysis of the Club's features and assets, which were redefined as functional benefits, then as rewards to members, and finally as shared values.

The third phase of this planning exercise identified six major goals, based on the strategic analysis and vision, over a 10-year period of

continued on page 2

Could anyone forget this?



They're baaaaack!

2011 ROUND SALTSPRING FASHION SHOW & PUB NIGHT

Friday • April 29 • 1800 hrs



Commodore's Report

continued from page 1

development. Work has now started on drafting strategies, which, in turn, will lead to projects and activities that can be placed on timelines and defined in terms of the dollars, and the volunteer hours required.

All in all, it has been a lot of work to get this far in the planning process, and I would like to thank **Silk Questo** and **Jon Healey**, who have given an extraordinary amount of time, effort and skill to the process. Moving forward from here, the membership will be reviewing the vision and goals at the next General Meeting, and committees will continue the process of developing strategies and project plans.

In the meantime, the Dock & Dredge project has moved forward with further regulatory approvals and the tender documents are now being readied for the dredging. **Norm Dinsmore**, assisted by **Hugh Greenwood** and **Derek Barrio** have been the point people in dealing with the regulatory issues, which an Island Trust Planner aptly described as "... a complex weave of overlapping agency jurisdictions."

The Dock component of the project has its own complex weave of issues to negotiate: layout, design and construction specifications; scheduling and logistics; decisions on volunteer and contract resources, budget and financing ... there are still many planning details to finalize. **Ron Sturm**, **Hugh Preddy**, **Nick Hodson**, **Jon Healey**, **David Questo**, **Rob Denny** and **Michael Clark** comprise the rest of the crew working on the "D&D" project.

And down on the docks, there is the bustle of activity as boats are scrubbed and polished in readiness for the Opening Day Sailpast on May 1st. For my part, the makeshift boat cover has survived another winter and has kept *Iwalani* from the elements. I just have to wrestle the outboard motor back into its well, thread the foresail into the furler and cast off the lines. See you on the water! ■



Restricted Operator's Certificate (ROC-M) Course

The Canadian Power and Sailing Squadron (Saltspring Squadron) is offering this VHF radio course **May 16-18** (3 evenings including exam).

Vice Commodore's Report

by Don Dashwood



There was a good turnout for the **April Work Party** and an amazing amount of items were worked on. Three new opening windows were installed. This sounds easier than it actually was. We have an old building that has settled and sagged over the years. The windows had to be installed into the old opening without concern for level or plumb. If one looks carefully at the new kitchen window you will notice an out of kilter counter-window alignment.

Mind you, a quick glance at the dishwasher/counter and one realizes that the floor has a definite list. The new entry door was delivered and will be installed after we put a couple of sealer coats on it. All the toilets have now been replaced with new low water use ones and should save the Club a bit of money, while doing our "bit" for the environment, as well as much less strain on the septic system. Gutters were cleaned, windows and trophies polished, decks were power washed, kitchen cupboards were organized and the "mucky" bar fridge downstairs was thoroughly cleaned. The BBQ's were scrubbed and have not looked so good in a long time.



The yard work crew also accomplished a great deal. Many of the shrubs had been knocked down during last winter and now are cut back and ready to start their spring growth and bloom. Everything was raked up and many loads of old cuttings were hauled away. The Club had a garbage bin delivered and it proved worthwhile.

The old yellow 5-knot dinghy ("Yellow Max") was dismantled and a new floating speed warning is being constructed. I'm sure I have missed something, however I think everyone that did turn up did their part. We had a great lunch and along with all the work had a good visit with other Club members. ■

WORKER BEES (right, from top): Window wizards Peter Toby and Bob Traynor; Derek Sowden checks the trim; Phil Grange and Ken Rootham have the installation sussed inside and out; Hugh Greenwood, Derek Lundy and Anders Neilsen finish off "Yellow Max" for good; Keith Simpson and Lawrie Neish work on Max's replacement. **ABOVE:** Ian Wilson gives our new toilets the Royal (Low) Flush.



Rear Commodore's Report

by Ron Sturm



Thanks to **Rod MacDonald**, we can once again enjoy the pleasures of boat-washing with fresh water. Please remember, however, that there are a lot of us sharing the contents of a small water supply pipe. This may sound silly,

but be sure to turn off the water supply faucets when you are finished. There have been cases in the past when water hoses were left running for extended periods. Our water is metered and the Club is billed for it.

We were recently advised of a general recall of certain Whirlpool dehumidifiers because they were known to start fires.

Details of the recalled models and serial numbers are posted on the gate house bulletin board. Note that these models, along with many other dehumidifiers on the market, are not rated for marine use. We strongly urge anyone who leaves unattended electrical equipment

operating on their boat to make damn sure it is rated to be safe for such use! Using cheap household appliances on a boat may seem thrifty in the short term, but the marine environment is very good at seeking out and exploiting any design weaknesses in your equipment. Short-term savings can prove to be very expensive in the long run. If you depend on electrical devices on your boat, extra care and vigilance is required to keep you and your neighbours safe. ■



WORK PARTY ON THE DOCK! John Lugsdin (left) wheels a barrow full of tools; Vincent Argiro (below left) and Suzanne Ambers (below) give the ladders a fresh coat of paint.



PHOTOS: GARY MORRISON, COLLEEN SHANTZ

Staff Captain's Report

by Susan Castle



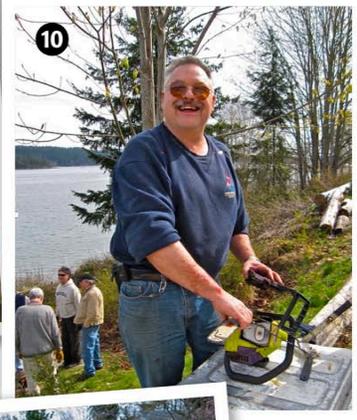
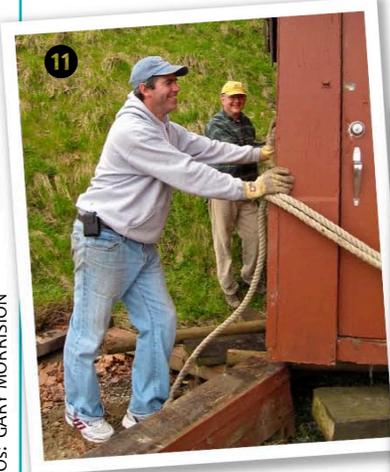
The Spring Work Party was a great success with many chores completed and lots of hungry workers to feed. Thanks to the able kitchen crew for their contribution. Sunday May 1st is Opening Day and Sailpast. Come join us for the festivities. Lunch will be served in the Clubhouse following the Sailpast. ■



Spring Work Party Name Game

Who's been logging in the volunteer hours sprucing up the Club this spring? Here are a few of the over 80 members who turned out on April 9th. How many names can you put to these faces? Memorize them and you'll know who you're chatting with when you come to the Opening Day Sailpast. Thanks to all who came out! ■

❶ *Pete Davidson*; ❷ *Karen & Wayne Tepper*; ❸ *Vicki Morrison*; ❹ *Diane Alton-Kaighin*; ❺ *Myra Bourne*; ❻ (l to r) *Colleen Shantz, Maggie Snee, Perry Ruehlen, Christine Mauro*; ❼ *Bo Curtis*; ❽ *Kim Laidlaw*; ❾ *Debbie Wrate*; ❿ *Dave Howell*; ⓫ *Lyall Ruehlen*.



PHOTOS: GARY MORRISON

Annual Sailpast – Sunday, May 1, 2011

by Keith Simpson, *Fleet Captain Racing*

The Annual Sailpast is the official opening of the Club season, and one of the most formal activities of the Sailing Club year. It is an occasion for members to show the high regard and respect in which they hold the Club and its officers and all boat owners are strongly encouraged to attend. **It is an event where a letter of regret to the Commodore is appropriate if for any reason you are unable to take part.**



Unfortunately, the Sailpast can be one of the more confusing of the Club's activities, so please pay attention. You could be hit by a 70mm navel orange if you get out of line!

This year's event will take place on Sunday, May 1st. All boats will be on the water at 1100 hours, forming a line for the Sailpast, which will occur as soon as a reasonable line is formed. Each boat should be flying the national flag and the Club burgee. Flag Officers should also fly their flags of office.

Here is what happens:

- **Commodore Gary Morrison will anchor *Iwalani*, a 26' sailboat, off the Club breakwater.**
- The Club boats will **form a line astern of the Fleet Captain Racing on *Soul Thyme***, who will organize and lead proceedings.
- Please monitor **Channel 72** on your VHF during the Sailpast for instruction and cajoling.

Sailpast line order:

- Fleet Captain Racing: Keith Simpson on *Soul Thyme* – 41' sailboat.
- Past Commodore: Jon Healey on *Khadine* – 30' sailboat.
- Current Vice Commodore: Don Dashwood on *Aquila Mia* – 37' sailboat.
- Current Rear Commodore: Ron Sturm on *Panther Point* – 30' sailboat.

- Remaining Current Flag Officers.
- All Other Members: Power and Sailboats intermingled. Sailboats to use engines as required to maintain spacing in the line.

As each boat passes astern of the Commodore's boat, the national flag should be lowered to the 1/3 hoist position. The Commodore will respond by lowering his flag. When the Commodore raises his flag again, that is the time to raise yours and sail away to a safe area, out of the way of the other vessels waiting to sail past. If your flag is not on a halyard, which allows it to be lowered, you may either remove the entire flag staff with the flag, and keep it removed until the Commodore has raised his; or you may simply hold the flag against the staff so that it ceases to fly.

When you have completed your sailpast, you can return to the docks. However, if you are a sailor, stay prepared for a No Flying Sails race after lunch.

Crews should promptly return to the clubhouse, and be ready to welcome the Commodore. Liquid refreshments will be available during the waiting period. When the Commodore returns to the dock, he and the other Board Members present will be piped ashore by a Scottish piper and escorted up to the clubhouse, to be welcomed by all the members. The Staff Captain and her crew will then serve a sandwich lunch.

This is what you need to know:

- On Sunday, May 1st re-read these instructions one last time and be on the water at 1100 with your national flag and a burgee (and Flag Officer's flag).
- Monitor **Channel 72** as we form our line and perform the Sailpast.
- Lunch provided, no host bar, dress casual.
- No Flying Sails race after lunch. ■

Racing Forum

by Keith Simpson, *Fleet Captain Racing*



Three races were held in March. The **Spring Regatta** and potluck was well attended by 10 boats. *Imp*, *Kay D* and *Oasis* took the podium positions.

An unscheduled run of **Round Prevost** was precipitated when an attempt at an early **Portland-Moresby Race** was cancelled. As it turned out the wind was excellent and the six boats all finished in less than three hours. *Velica*, *Irie* and *Empezar* led that fleet.



The two-day single-handed race **Round Penders** had 11 participants. The smallest boat, *Kay D*, took first, followed by the largest boat, *Oasis*. *Final Dash* was third. We witnessed a rare feat in the pub at Port Browning. The server took dinner orders for 11 skippers including side dishes *without writing anything down*. She nailed us all and even

remembered which meal you had when you went to pay. *Unbelievable!* And I assume she was doing that for the whole pub! That was the highlight. The quality of the karaoke scared us enough to avoid embarrassing ourselves, as is usually the case.

The Club trophies for all racing events were reviewed by **Lawrie Neish**, **Bob Jones** and myself to determine their condition. Four trophies for races which are no longer held have been retired. Not surprisingly, the records for the Broken Tiller, “worst feat of the year,” and the Tar and Feathers, “last boat to finish Round Saltspring” are seriously out of date. I will ferret out the “winners” and have them engraved for posterity. Three trophies can be reallocated: the Rose Bowl, donated by Laurie Neish; the White Sails trophy, donated by Terry Small; and the Bitter End trophy. One trophy, a metal sail boat on a wooden base with two cup holders, has no engraving or record of origin. Anyone knowing its origin please contact the Club.

Sunday, May 1st is our annual **Opening Day Sailpast and No Flying Sails Race**. Every member must attend. Please read and heed your instructions on page 6. ■

Left: Singlehanders celebrate at Port Browning; Right and below: Spring Regatta.



International One Metre Report

by Martin Herbert, CAN 99

The IOM's had their first regatta of the year at Beaver Lake in March with **Ole Anderson** and myself being the Saltspring racers. Due to Sunday ferry schedules we had six minutes to rig before the first race, but as this is the standard Saltspring handicap we were ready with 12 seconds to go.

On the ferry ride over the wind blew 35 knots. When we arrived, it was blowing 20 knots in the trees surrounding the lake and about 3 knots on the water, punctuated by 20 knot gusts from no fixed direction. What followed was a wild 16 races with many knock downs, at times the whole fleet submarining then rounding up out of control. Ole and Graham Herbert called the tuning right – setting up for the maximum blasts and staying in control – and they had first and second place well in hand by lunch break. Ole helped me tune up for the afternoon, which got a bit wilder, and that helped me to win five races. Meanwhile he got hit by some blasts and broke several of his finely-crafted carbon fibre parts as well as having his steering rod pack it in. He raced on anyway, showing great skill in the jury rigging department. Saltspring came back in the last two races, claiming first and third finishes in both. This allowed me to climb to second overall, and Ole to stay in the top half of the fleet.

Ole is off for the “Great Ocean Race” on the 16th of April. This is a mixed fleet race around Protection Island. We are wishing him well and expect some great pictures and tall stories. On the 23rd of April we have a regatta at Long Lake in Nanaimo, and the following weekend we race on Lake Washington in the first of the “Cow Cup” regattas.

My new boat *Aero* hit the water this month and will have her first trial by fire in Nanaimo. I am pretty happy with my first design attempt: it floats, steers and has even won a few test races. She is pretty radical in that she has a lot of volume up forward and a very slim stern. Three other sailors in the area are also sailing new boats that they designed themselves so this looks to be a good season for thinking and learning. We are ever hopeful of giving the Eastern Sailors a good run for their money and hopefully by the National Championships in September we will be up to speed. ■



The Quick Way Round Prevost

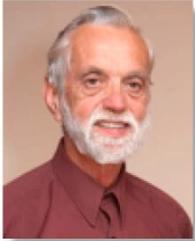
by Martin Herbert

The strong breeze of March 20th inspired the racing fleet to hold an impromptu race extra to the official schedule. The course: around Prevost Island and home. Six boats took up the challenge. The start was won by *Empezar*, and the fleet was off on a brisk run out the harbour powered by the unusual northerly wind. Once past the Sisters the wind swung to give a most exciting broad reach much to the liking of the lightweight *Kay D* who planed into the lead. Rounding Point Liddell, the tide, so friendly on the first leg, turned against us. The mighty *Oasis* roared by to leeward followed by *Velica* (above), showing the beauty of her classic design. Crossing ahead of *Oasis*, *Velica* took race lead, starting an exciting battle between the two yachts that lasted until the end. Line honours went to *Oasis*, but on corrected time, *Velica* won the day, with *Irie* second and the steadily improving *Empezar* taking third. ■



Wharfinger's Report

by Hugh Preddy



The **Duty Wharfinger** sign-up sheet is now in the clubhouse entry. The list will be moved down to the pier gatehouse later in the season. Duty Wharfinger coverage days start on the weekend of May 6th and run through to mid-September. This is a great way for members to cover their volunteer hours while working on their boat. This past weekend we had two guest boats staying on the breakwater. The reason I bring this up is that once again we are entering the period when guest boats can be expected. I ask that if your boat is out more than 24 hours for a cruise or for maintenance on the hard, please sign your slip out on the white board located in the pier gatehouse.

The **summer's electrical season** starts May 1st. Please remember to unplug your boat's power cord if you are not paying for summer electricity. Checks will be made in May and members found using power but not paying for it will be invoiced for the entire summer period.

The **Round Saltspring Race** is happening on the May 20th weekend. Many volunteers will be required for this event and I will need 10 to 12 members to take a two hour shift on the Friday to assist with rafting racers. This is always a lot of fun, a little hectic but most interesting. If you are interested, please contact me. ■

Secretary's Report

by Michael Clark



There is little to report this month, although there are three applications in process for new memberships which indicates that people still see great value in the Club regardless of the increased fees that members approved at recent general meetings.

With our **Opening Day Sailpast** soon approaching, the demand for new burgees increases. A new supply of tougher, more durable burgees has been ordered and thanks to Louise Devlin and Silk Questo it contains a much happier elephant than past versions. If you have not pre-ordered at the work party, and need a replacement (at \$30.00) please order one by emailing secretary@saltspringsailing.ca ■



Sailing School Open House



Sun May 8th
1000 Hours

This is a great chance to find out more about our Summer Sailing School and our Junior Program.

Registrations will be taken for summer classes, so if you know a young sailor who'd like to get involved in the best sport in the world, send 'em to us!

For more information, go to the Club website, or call contact Patrick Beattie at (250) 537-7722

Marine Garage Sale

The Maritime Museum of BC has organized a "massive" outdoor marine garage sale on April 30th at Ogden Point, starting at 0900 hrs. You can bargain hunt, rent a sale table or donate items to benefit the Museum. (Note that the Club may also have a sale later this year to support the Dinghy program).

For more information go to the Museum website at www.mmbc.bc.ca

Dinghy Fleet Report

by Patrick Beattie, *Fleet Captain Dinghy*



The Junior Committee has been working like beavers on this program. A work party was held and we removed the condemned boats and have taken three for repair. A rigging evaluation was done. We have submitted a request for a quote on the new boats.

The fundraising has gone well. We have received a letter from CRD for both grants saying they are approved and we are still waiting to hear from the grant application to the Gaming Commission. We have also had three private donations in which we have a letter of understanding from. This so far has raised \$18,000.00 with a request to Gaming for

\$10,000.00. This will be a continuing process in order to bring the fleet up to standards to meet the program needs.

Advertising will be going into the schools for both the Junior Program and the Sailing School. Please spread the word to any potential Junior members. Thanks to Kevin Vine the web site is going ahead and will have a section for the Junior members.

Registration day for the Sailing School and sign up for the Junior memberships is Sunday, May 8, 2011 at 1000 hours. This is a great opportunity to see what the program is all about.

See you at the Club. ■

Cruising News

by Susannah Devitt, *Fleet Captain Cruising*



A reminder of the **Winter Cove cruise** coming up this weekend, Saturday April 16th, from **Tanya Van Ginkel** and **Scott Chapman** on *Kialoa*. This is a lovely, spacious anchorage with no facilities so bring your dinghy. All sorts of fun activities are planned for Saturday and Sunday including a potluck, weather permitting. If you're interested contact Tanya and Scott.

Also, remember **May Long Weekend Cruise** to Daphne Isle led by **Rob Denny** which will take place at the same time as the Round Saltspring Race. Cruisers will depart from the Sailing Club before noon on Friday, May 20th, and visit Russell Island, Daphne Island and Portland Island. Contact Rob Denny for further information. Welcome to **Tanya Van Ginkel**, **Alan Brooke** and **Nick Symthe** to the Cruising Committee. We will be reviewing our reprocals and will ask the membership for help. ■

CRUISING INTO SPRING: These delightful shots come from Perry and Lyall Ruehlen, who enjoyed a *Spring Break* cruise to the San Juan Islands in March aboard their boat *Inside Passage*. Note their 2-year-old daughter sporting the Club colours!



Round Saltspring News | May 20-22, 2011

by Chris Gadsby, Round Saltspring Chair

Everything is planned and ready for this year's Round Saltspring Race May 20-22nd. Your Race Committee has met on two occasions, the posters are printed, the menu is finalized and we intend to attract some new participants and deliver another high quality event. If you would like to register for the race, or order barbecue tickets or clothing, please go the Club website and click on Round Saltspring 2011. You can do it all online, or download forms to mail in.

We are planning a fun evening on Friday with a **live band, fashion show and salmon barbecue**. The



traditional **lamb barbecue** will be held on Sunday around noon. Don't forget to mark your calendar for the pre-race **Pub Night & Fashion Show** on Friday, April 29th. We have fantastic models and some surprises in store. The new Race clothing is on order (it looks very dramatic!) and will be here for that night.

We will be contacting the usual **volunteers** for this event and if you are willing to help out with the bar Friday evening or Sunday please let me know. You can call me at **250-537-8583**. Many thanks to the Committee and all those who help out. Looking forward to another great Round Saltspring Race!

The Bas Cobanli Memorial Trophy

by Roger Kibble

This tribute to Bas Cobanli, one of the Sailing Club's most illustrious founders, was given as introduction to this year's race held on April 10th.

Today's race remembers and celebrates an extraordinary individual who, in so many ways, helped establish the Sailing Club and created the racing program that we enjoy today. Bas was a sailor of unparalleled ability, knowledge and determination and was indeed a legend in his own time both at the RYVC and then at SISC, which he helped found in 1975. He won countless club races and won the Round Saltspring outright in three different boats, a 20' Lightning, his Martin 32 and then in a Martin 242.

In 1978 Bas designed our docks and oversaw their construction by Club members in Wellbury Bay and their placement at our present club site, an extraordinary and unequalled act of leadership, design ingenuity and dedication. Bas also built many boats including a 32' double ender and the great *Haereticus*, now owned by the Neish family.

He wrote and edited *TellTales* for many years, was the local PHRF handicapper and club handicapper, and was recognized as the resident expert in all matters sailing on the West Coast. He was a renowned potter on Salt Spring and we still enjoy and use his beautiful SISC mugs at the club.

Bas was also the prime architect of our club-racing schedule and was quite simply one of the best ever sailors in BC. He, in partnership with Lawrie Neish, set the club standard of uncompromised sailing and racing excellence. Bas did not suffer fools or anyone that didn't take sailing seriously, gladly. He practiced what he preached: the importance of boat preparation, appreciation of tide and wind shifts, pre-planning for every race and the need for 100% personal focus and dedication.

Our course today, wind permitting, includes many of our local sailing marks that are used to create most of our races, and is our salute to SISC's most illustrious sailor, the truly great and incomparable, Bas Cobanli. ■

Parting Shots

Here's a new challenge for you. A picture with absolutely no clues. Okay – one little, minimally helpful, clue. It's a scene that's near and dear to my heart since it was the view from my office window for many years. Even if you've never sailed into this lovely harbour, you should be able to get this one, so let's have lots of entries! Send yours to telltales@saltspringsailing.ca for a chance at a fabulous prize from Louise's stash!



Editor's Log

I'm writing this log from our 'land yacht', currently 'docked' by the side of the Carmel River in the pretty valley upland from Monterey Bay. It's idyllic and green, but my mind is on the water and the start of our Pacific Northwest boating season.

Our **Opening Day Sailpast** is an inspiring way to launch the best season of the year, and if you have not participated in the past, I really encourage you to be there this year. We're a pretty informal Club, which is one reason we love it, but this is an opportunity to celebrate and honour our maritime traditions in a more formal manner. And it's also lots of fun. Who doesn't love a Scottish piper in a kilt? Another tradition is the Opening Day No Flying Sails Race, which is a fun race for everyone. Let's see lots of boats out for it this year!

Another thing to celebrate on Opening Day: the leaders of our Club, past and present, whose dedication, skills and hard work have helped built the Sailing Club we all enjoy. This is members' chance to recognize their Board and raise a toast to the 'greats' in our Club's history (see Roger Kibble's article on Bas Cobanli on page 11 for just one example). Hope to see many of you out on Opening Day for the start of another fabulous sailing season.

Silk Questo

Editor | telltales@saltspringsailing.ca



The March contest winner ...



... is **Michael and Lynn Clark** who identified the beautiful **Octopus Islands**, a favourite Marine Park off Quadra Island. Congrats also to runner-up **Lorne Shantz**, who also had the correct answer (but lost the draw this time). A prize for the Clarks will be forthcoming!



TellTales is a publication of the
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**TellTales May Issue Deadline:
Thursday, May 5, 2011**