

TellTales

Volume 30 • Number 2 • February 2011



Calendar

February 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					

- 1st 1900 Board Meeting
 6th 1030 McMillan Trophy Race
 13th 1800 Skippers Choice Valentine Potluck Dinner
 20th 0930 Walker Rock Race
 22nd 1900 Special General Meeting
 25th 1700 Meet & Greet Pub Night

March 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 1900 Board Meeting
 6th 1030 Spring One Day Regatta
 1800 Regatta Potluck Dinner
 17th 1800 St. Patrick's Day Social
 26th 1030 Round Penders Race – Day 1
 27th 1030 Round Penders Race – Day 2



Ole Anderson's Caliente was first off the line in a foggy start to the McMillan Trophy Race. Find out who was first over the finish line in Martin Herbert's exciting account starting on page 6.

Commodore's Report

By Gary Morrison



It may be only February and the ice is still on the docks, but preparations for the boating season have really heated up! The Round Saltspring Committee, this year led by **Chris Gadsby**, has a small army (navy?) of members working on everything from prizes to parking signs and tickets to toilets. The countdown to the Yearbook, available at the end of March, involves dozens of people, confirming reciprocals, updating the membership roster, finalizing committees, and setting up the publication.

As you will read in their *TellTales* reports, the Fleet Captains are also moving at flank speed. **Patrick Beattie** has lined up the instructors and sent off our grant applications for the sailing school. **Susannah Devitt** has confirmed the reciprocal agreements and booked the spring cruises. **Keith Simpson** has prepared the race schedule, which includes everything from little events for big boats to big events (The Nationals) for little boats – a total of 40 events!

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Commodore's Report

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And speaking of the Fleet Captains, I would like to again emphasize the importance of their role in the Club. Their respective areas of responsibility – cruising, racing and junior sailing – pretty well cover the purposes of the Club as stated in our constitution. This year all three of the Fleet Captains are new to the Board and bring an impressive amount of enthusiasm and new ideas to the otherwise mundane agendas of our Board meetings.

You should be reading this copy of *TellTales* just in time to get ready for the **Skipper's Choice Valentine**

Potluck Dinner on February 13th. I don't know whether "skipper's choice" refers to the skipper's sweetheart or the food that the skipper is supposed to prepare for this event, but I do know there will be lots of good grub and valentines to be found in the clubhouse.

We also have some important events coming up toward the end of this month. The **Special General Meeting** on February 22nd will address some concerns with the revised initiation fees and present some important new information on the dock and dredge project. Please take a moment to review the agenda at right and the Proposed Motion that will be voted on at the meeting. A few days later, on February 26th, we will spend some less serious (but just as important) time in the clubhouse welcoming new members and saying farewell to those who have resigned. Please mark your calendar for our annual **Meet & Greet Pub Night!**

NOTICE

Saltspring Island Sailing Club

Special General Meeting

Tuesday, February 22nd 2011

Agenda:

Call to Order by Commodore Gary Morrison, at 1900 hours

Adoption of the agenda

Commodore's Remarks

Minutes of November 30, 2010 Annual General Meeting

Treasurer's report	Eric van Soeren
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Officers' reports

a) Vice Commodore	Don Dashwood
b) Rear Commodore	Ron Sturm
c) Fleet Captain, Racing	Keith Simpson
d) Fleet Captain, Dinghy	Patrick Beattie
e) Fleet Captain, Cruising	Susannah Devitt
f) Wharfinger	Hugh Preddy
g) Staff Captain	Susan Castle

Business arising from minutes

a) Update on dock project	Jon Healey Norm Dinsmore
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New Business

a) Motion to amend the Resolution on Initiation Fees passed at the Annual General Meeting Nov 30, 2010
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Proposed Motion

That the resolution to change the membership initiation fees, previously adopted by the 2010 Annual General Meeting, be amended by changing the total initiation fee for those under age 40 to \$3,000, with \$1,000 paid on application and an additional \$2,000 to be paid on assignment of a slip, and deleting all references to slip length.

The Resolution as amended would thus read:

That effective December 1, 2010 the initiation fee for regular membership for those aged 40 years and over is raised to \$4,000 with \$2,000 paid on application and an additional \$2,000 to be paid on assignment of a slip. In addition, to encourage a younger membership, the initiation fee for regular membership for those under the age of 40 years shall be \$3,000 with \$1,000 paid on application and an additional \$2,000 to be paid on assignment of a slip. In the case of a joint application both applicants shall be under the age of 40.

Adjournment

Vice Commodore's Report

By Don Dashwood



The investigation on the clubhouse zoning continues. We were zoned R9 on June 28, 2001, presumably to accommodate the varieties of uses that existed at the Sailing Club property. Within this zoning other uses are allowed, including community halls and non-commercial outdoor activities.

Regarding the septic system, Bylaw 355 states that where septic systems were legally sited prior to 355, the owners can continue to use the facility in place so long as the system works and the setbacks are legal. This may be tight for the setbacks although I believe we will only have to honour the setbacks that existed in 2001. If we are “legal non conforming,” I am unsure as to what is non-conforming. This is to be investigated further.

Regarding property tax assessment, the consensus is we will not appeal the assessment. As our Treasurer, **Eric van Soeren**, pointed out we have had a survey done and replacement cost of the clubhouse, A-frame and docks was estimated at \$2 million. The assessed value of improvements other than land is less than \$500,000. **Russ Crouse** has sent in an enquiry to the Tax Office and will talk to them on how they made up the multiples. No reply yet.

All Club bookings (clubhouse and grounds) are being managed by **Susannah Devitt**. Any member or group that wishes to book the clubhouse for Club or personal events are asked to check the date with Susannah at 250-537-2570. We have a calendar on our website (click on ‘Clubhouse Calendar’ in left hand column) indicating booked events and showing which events will require a LCB Special Occasion Licence. This calendar is for reference only, to help people plan their dates. You cannot fill in an event date on this calendar yourself, but must go through Susannah.

House and grounds is planning to upgrade the water line and install low flush toilets this spring. I will be ordering three or four new replacement windows that will be here in time for the next Work Party. CRD asks that if we replace the entry door we change it to an out swing. We may have to rearrange the entry deck.

Further attempts will be made to stop the water problem in the basement under the entry. We will install a sump pump on the outside of the concrete wall or dig a new drain line that will run towards the creek. The best solution is yet to be determined. ■

Valentine's Day



Skipper's Choice Potluck Dinner

Sun • Feb 13th • 1800

Share the love!

Booking the Clubhouse?

Contact Susannah Devitt first!
(250) 537-2570 or
clubhouse@saltspringsailing.ca

Don't be disappointed. Dates available for events requiring liquor licenses may be limited. Please call well in advance!

Secretary's Report

By Michael Clark



Four new members have joined the Club this month. Please welcome **Gordon and Laura Dafoe; Kim and Karen Laidlaw; Ray Hirvonen and Myra Bourne; and Don Rose and Ruth Humberstone**. Together they bring

a wide variety of experiences and will be welcome additions to our Club. We also have three applications in hand for Associate Membership. As we have passed in to a new year, preparations are underway to publish our annual Yearbook, and Norbert Schlenker, Kevin Vine and I have been working to ensure accuracy of the membership records. A review of this indicates that the Club now has 200 members including three Junior Members, 13 Associates and 184 Regular Members. This is an increase of nine members from this time last year.

The 2011 membership cards will be distributed by "snail mail" this year, and we are currently awaiting delivery from the printer. If your card does not arrive in the mail this month, please let me know. ■

Dinghy Fleet Report

By Patrick Beattie, *Fleet Captain, Dinghy*

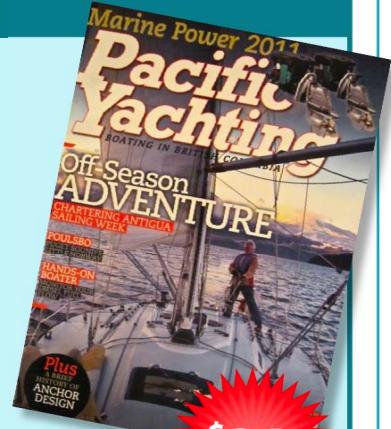


There has been good progress on our Junior Program and we look forward to a great summer with the Sailing School. We now have five volunteers for the Junior Program. There are grant applications in to the ISCU Gifts Program and the Salt Spring

Foundation. All the instructors have been hired for the school and two of the instructors will be involved in presentations that will take place in late May. I have approached the middle school to do three presentations, hopefully through the PE program, and one during lunch hour. This has still to be approved by the school. We hope to generate lots of interest! ■

Take Advantage of this Great Offer to Members!

**Group Discount
on *Pacific
Yachting*
Subscriptions
Just \$24
for a Year**



\$24

SISC members who enjoy reading *Pacific Yachting* are being offered a group discount rate.

Regardless of your past renewal date, you can take advantage of this reduced price of \$24 per year (including tax), which will take effect from your present expiration date. If you are not already a subscriber, you will receive your first issue in spring.

To participate, your cheque for \$24, payable to Russ Crouse, must be received by February 24, 2011. Mail to:

**Russ Crouse
1101-115 Fulford-Ganges Rd.
Saltspring Is, BC V8K 2T9**

Questions? Call Russ at (250) 537-2570, or email russcrouse@saltspring.com. Please note: Pacific Yachting will not accept add-ons after the group order has been mailed.

**Remember! Deadline for receipt
of your cheque is February 24th**

Staff Captain's Report

By Susan Castle

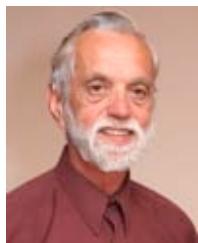


Hello Members! Hope that those of you who are still on Saltspring during the winter season are ready to join us at the Sailing Club for some February fun! Our first event is the annual **Skippers' Choice Potluck Dinner**. Skippers, we're looking forward to tasting your special creations. Hope to see you on February 13th (Sunday) at 1800 hrs.

Our next function is the annual **Meet & Greet Pub Night** hosted on February 25th (Friday) at 1700 hrs. Please take the time to join us in welcoming our new members. We are also inviting our members that have resigned over the past year. Come and wish them well. Hope to see you at both of these events. As usual, volunteers are needed. Please call me at 250-537-8519. ■

Wharfinger's Report

By Hugh Preddy



Winter power checks on the boats in the club have shown a number of members were using more electrical power than what was paid for. In several cases the problem was due to thermostatically controlled electrical heaters.

Presently the club does not have the means for measuring electrical consumption over a period of time but can do spot checks only. Because of this we measure and charge for peak draw not the unknown average. Frequently when an electric heater cycles on it draws considerably more than the member's electrical allotment.

The only solution to this would be for the club to install individual meters at each boat. With our present electrical configuration and the sharing of a single power receptacle between two boats this would be very expensive and would not work.

To ensure that you not receive an unwelcome invoice for the extra power I suggest that heat lamps or small heaters that draw a constant load be used. If unsure of your draw I'd be pleased to check it for you. ■

PHOTOS: SILK QUESTO

Meet & Greet Pub Night

Cheers

Skål

Kippis

Salud

Okole maluna

Cin cin

Budmo

Kampai

Prosit

Mabuhay

Sláinte

À votre santé

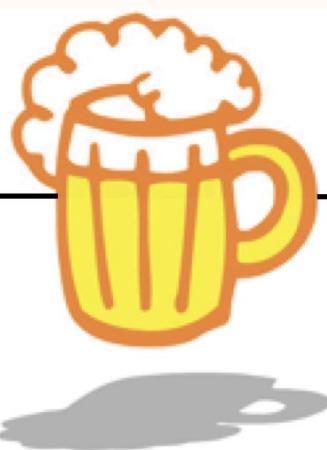
Gan bei

L'chaim

Oogy wawa

Fri • Feb 25 • 1700 hrs

Come toast new members
and old friends.



The Glorious McMillan Trophy Race

By Martin Herbert

The McMillan Trophy Race is a 10.6 nautical mile romp that takes the fleet out of the harbour and up to Batt Rock, rounding to port and over to Ben Mohr Rock off Galiano Island and home. Last year it was won by the smallest boat in the racing fleet, the Flying Fifteen *Kay D* and the year before it was won by one of the biggest racers, the powerful Beneteau First 41 *Oasis*. It is a much coveted trophy and to my mind the most beautiful at the Club.

A Race with a History

It is in honour of **Peter McMillan**, who was one of the prime movers in creating the Saltspring Island Sailing Club. He was Commodore in 1977 and 1978 and was instrumental in effecting the Club's move to its present location. As Commodore, he oversaw the challenges of property acquisition and dock construction.

Long time club member **Roger Kibble**, says of Peter, "He was truly a master mariner serving in the merchant marine during the war and then as a Captain with BC Ferries. He owned *Erin*, a beautiful Six Metre, which he sailed with leadership, calm precision and quiet aggressiveness".

After his death in December 1985, Peter's family commissioned boatbuilder Charlie Afford to create a half model of *Erin* as the trophy for the race.

The Six Metre *Erin*: Best of Breed

Erin herself has quite a history, having been built by Fife in Scotland in the 1930s and coming to North America to race. For those who do not know boats intimately, a Six Metre is a no compromise race boat and a Fife Six Metre is, in auto parlance, like having Ettore Bugatti build your car. She was then called *Saskia II*. Somehow she came West and into the McMillans' life and was much admired for her beauty. My father, Alf Herbert, worked on her in the 1970s, while she was being campaigned by Peter. By the early 1990s she had fallen on hard times but her

classic lines saved her again and she was bought by **Mark Wallace**, a shipwright and amazing craftsman. He restored her to her original condition as his own boat, but word got back to Europe, and a Swiss sailor just had to have her. She is now based in Vancouver and last year won a high wind race at the World Championship then went on to win the North American Championship in the Classic division racing



at Port Townsend. Mark Wallace has moved to Salt Spring Island and is now a member of the Sailing Club. You may know his shipwright sign on the Fulford Ganges Road or have seen the stern of a sleek black hull poking out of the bushes near the road. He is currently restoring another Six Metre.

This Year's Race Results

The light winds at the top of the month had not raised hope for a fast time in this year's race. In the 10th year of the race, **Tony Brogan** completed the course in 136 minutes, setting a record that stood until **David Wood** drove *Final Dash* home in 102 minutes and 37 seconds in 2004. **Tony Meek**, however, holds the

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ABOVE: Peter McMillan's *Erin* after restoration, with Mark Wallace at the helm.

MacMillan Race

continued from page 6

record for most wins, sailing *Minke* to victory four times in the 25 year history of the race. When strong winds blew up on Friday morning **Vincent Argiro**, who was awarded the most Enthusiastic Racer Trophy last year, called me and we took his Alerion Express 33 *Velica* on a pre-race run at the course. With winds peaking at 28 knots heading for Captain Passage we surfed up to 10.3 knots. It was a great ride and only 18 minutes over the Wood record. Vincent, a keen observer on the water, was taking mental notes and storing them for later use.

The day of the race dawned foggy but with some wind and the racers gathered at the club. Fleet Captain **Keith Simpson** had organized a pre-race chalk talk led by **Greg Slakov**, then down to the boats. The start line was slightly favoured to the starboard end but the port side of the first leg looked to have slightly better wind so the tactical battle started even before the race. Most of the fleet chose the starboard end causing some crowding and tight manoeuvring that was won by **Ole Anderson** in *Caliente*. He hit the line on the gun with a good head of steam, just to leeward of the *Kay D*, who had arrived a bit early and was stalling on the line. At the port end **Greg Slakov** in *Imp* and **Vincent** in *Velica* opted to give up distance to windward for clear air and a clean line to the port side of the course. And so started what was to an extremely close and exciting race.

Imp led the fleet out of the harbour and past the Sisters but *Caliente* was first to Batt Rock and broke out her huge spinnaker for the reach over to Galiano. With the tide having turned and a current to battle through Captain Passage, the fleet again split tactically, some going high towards Prevost, into stronger current and stronger wind while others stayed low, favouring the Saltspring shore. Positions changed back and forth as the wind strength varied with the gusts rolling down James Bay. On the close reach over to Ben Mohr Rock the wind filled in and the fleet gybed and reset their spinnakers. After Scott Point those boats that could still hold their spinnakers had a fantastic reach to the Sisters, the kind of sailing that just puts a smile on your face. Then the run into

the finish line in front of the clubhouse in diminishing wind, playing the shifts and fighting for ever second. **Ole Anderson** took line honours with a time of 138 minutes.

On corrected time the first three boats finished within 42 seconds, with **Vincent Argiro** taking the win, 18 seconds ahead of your writer in the *Kay D*, who lead *Imp* by a mere 24 seconds. The entire fleet, first to last was less than 14 minutes apart, an incredibly close race. This was Vincent's first trophy race win and it reflects the time he has spent at the helm this year, a true moment of glory well deserved.

The sailors convened on **Keith Simpson's Soul Thyme** post race where many stories were exchanged and several new racers were welcomed into the fold. Keith is encouraging Saltspring Islanders who want to race to come out. All those who showed up for the McMillan Trophy Race were snapped up as crew and put to work, and judging by their smiling faces a good time was had by all. The next race is the gruelling **Walker Rock Race**, a 17.5 nautical mile endurance test, on Sunday, February 20th. ■

Rear Commodore's Report

By Ron Sturm



The endless battle with electrical gremlins goes on. A branch feeder cable under one dock was broken, and a new one is now in place. Several faulty GFI's have been replaced. We are happy to report that power is once again available to all boats. There are various problems with some dock lights. Parts have been ordered and we hope to have them all operating soon.

Several people have asked about the water supply to the docks. We feel that the danger of freezing is still too high to put the system back into operation. Mid-March seems to be a realistic target. Incidentally, plans are underway to upgrade the Club's water supply soon. Larger pipes should ensure much improved service at all usage points. ■

International One Metre Report

By Martin Herbert, CAN 84



The International One Metre Fleet is in full construction mode at the moment with **Roger Kibble** and **Martin Herbert** building new boats and **Lawrie Neish** and **Ole Anderson** upgrading their rigs and fine tuning their existing boats. The racing season starts at Beaver Lake on the 27th of February and has at least one event a month through to the fall. Our Club is hosting two major events this year, the **Western Canadians** in June and the

National Championships in September so we will be very busy. This last Tuesday I got to help Lawrie cast three keels in lead, a fascinating process with more smoke than mirrors but still pretty magical. The week before I worked in Ole's shop where he was turning sheaves for my carbon fibre pulleys. The parts are smaller than my baby finger nail and the lathe was bigger than my wife's car but Ole's precision was amazing. And so we are all helping each other to get our fleet prepared for the races.

Final arrangements are being made for the visit of the fourth-ranked sailor in the world to come and give us a beating. Rob Walsh is English but is working on a project in Vancouver and is keen to sail with us. Rumour has it that he will be here on Sunday the 13th of February and that we will be sailing from 1000 hours until about 1500. It might be a bit of a spectator sport and I am hoping to finish on the same leg of the race as the master. Ole and I are off to Nanaimo to get some practice against the Hornby sailors so that we will be as sharp as can be.

I have been enjoying learning the art of sailmaking and am now making all my own sails. There is a certain joy to be had sailing a boat when you have made all the parts, especially if it stays together ... Also new for me is designing the hull, thinking of shapes and how water flows over a form and how the shape changes as the boat heels. I find myself holding the hull at various angles and thinking of the poet Joseph Brodsky's quote "... the anarchy of water that spurns the notion of shape." ■

The Racing Forum

By Keith Simpson,
Fleet Captain, Racing



Thanks to **Martin Herbert** for this summary of the **Groundhog Day Race** on January 30th, which was delayed a week for lack of wind. This

is a pursuit race where the slowest boats start first and the fastest last, so ideally they all arrive at the finish together. **Gyle Keating** was first away in *Empezar*, beating into a gentle breeze with fickle puffs and dead spots ahead. Tactics were the order of the day as the skippers tried to pick out where the wind would be strongest. *Empezar*, and **Eric van Soeren's** *Paramour* ran a strong race, but the winning team was on *Electra*, with **Roger Kibble** on the helm and crew of **Ruth Riddell** and **Nicholas Sladen-Dew**. Of interest, *Electra* also won this race in 1995 in her first race at SISC. Finishing order was *Electra* in first, followed by *Empezar*, *Paramour*, *Deryn Mor*, *Kay D*, *Velica*, *Imp* and *Soul Thyme*. ■



Groundhog Day race competitor Kevin Vine helms Deryn Mor through light winds on a beautiful winter day on the water.

Cruising News

By Susannah Devitt, *Fleet Captain, Cruising*



The evening with **David Howell** was well attended with lots of wonderful desserts.

Thank you, David, for sharing your life with the Coast Guard along with a history of their ships. Most importantly, thanks for being there to help us boaters out of danger's way. I also want to thank the members who came out to share dessert and the evening.

The next Club cruise is our **Spring Cruise**, being

hosted by **Tanya Van Ginkel and Scott Chapman** at Winter Cove April 16th and 17th.

Watch for March's *TellTales* for more information. Fun is in store for that weekend! Thanks to Tanya and Scott for leading this first Club cruise of the year.

Our host for the traditional May long weekend cruise will be **Rob Denny**. Details will follow in the next few months. This is the ever-popular event for Club cruisers during the time the Round Saltspring Race is held at the Club. ■

CLUB CRUISING SURVEY

For all members interested Club cruising, please fill out this survey before the end of February (include name and email) and put it in the Cruise Captain's slot at the clubhouse, or scan and email to cruising@saltspringsailing.ca. **Thank you!**

1. What length of cruise interests you? (please check all that apply)

Day cruise Local overnight cruise Multiple day cruise (local) Longer expedition cruise

2. What are your mooring preferences? Tie at a dock Anchor out Either

3. What's most important to you in a Club cruise? Destination Organized activities Socializing/meals

4. Would you be interested in cruises with an instructional component? (please check all that apply)

Practice anchoring or picking up a mooring Transiting a tidal pass Crew overboard procedures
 First crossing of Georgia Strait Other _____

5. Would you be interested in sharing local knowledge of our waters with those new to boating?

Yes, I want to learn Yes, I can share expertise (please indicate areas of interest)

Gulf Islands Desolation Broughtons West Coast San Juans/Puget Other _____

6. Would you be interested in sharing knowledge on boating topics?

Yes, I want to learn Yes, I can share expertise (please indicate areas of interest)

Galley Maintenance Engines Electronics Other _____

7. Would you consider leading a Club cruise? Yes No Need more information

8. Comments or suggestions? _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Parting Shots

Who among our intrepid Northern cruisers can recognize this popular community-on-floats from some of the amusing signs posted around their docks? With its restaurant, fuel dock and moorage, it's one of the best equipped ports of call in an archipelago where facilities are few and far between. Where are we? Send your guess to telltale@saltspringsailing.ca for a chance at great club gear prize!



Editor's Log

The **Round Saltspring Race** team is gearing up, and this year (not to be left out of the cyberverse) we're adding a social media dimension to communications. For those of you who think of Twitter as something for the birds rather than for mobile devices, who are more familiar with the boob tube than YouTube, and who still wonder what the heck the Facebook fuss is all about, here's a reason to stick your toe into the social media waters. Have questions? Ask a teenager! Or if you're more comfortable getting advice from a middle-aged semi-computer-literate writer/sailor, send me an email. For the rest of you, go to your Facebook page today and find the new **Round Saltspring 2011 Community Page**. Then click "like"! When we have 25 likes, the page gets an official unique name and becomes more accessible. This will be a fun way to share comments, information and links to our YouTube and Flickr pages. Thanks to **Scott Simmons** for setting it all up.

On another topic, I know I'm going to get asked, so here are the toast languages from the ad on page 5: Cheers (*English*), Skål (*Swedish*), Kippis (*Finnish*), Salud (*Spanish*), Okole maluna (*Hawaiian*), Cin cin (*Italian*), Budmo (*Ukrainian*), Kampai (*Japanese*), Prosit (*German*), Mabuhay (*Tagalog*), Sláinte (*Gaelic*), À votre santé (*French*), Gan bei (*Chinese*), L'chaim (*Hebrew*), Oogy wawa (*Zulu*). And Oogy wawa to all!



Silk Questo

Editor | telltale@saltspringsailing.ca

The January contest winner ...



... is **Jill Sydneysmith**, one of several entrants who recognized **Chemainus Harbour**. In case you're wondering, when multiple correct answers are received, the winner is chosen by a roll of the dice. No accounting firm is hired to verify results, but trust me – it's fair and square! I expect to have the December and January prizes ready to distribute next week.



TellTales is a publication of the
Saltspring Island Sailing Club
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537-5112 (clubhouse)
www.saltspringsailing.ca
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**TellTales March issue deadline:
Thursday, March 3rd**