

TellTales



Volume 30 • Number 1 • January 2011

Calendar

January 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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 1030 Hot Rum Race & Social
- 4th 1900 Board Meeting
- 9th 1030 Ben Mohr Rock Race
- 20th 1900 An Evening with Dave Howell
- 23rd 1030 Ground Hog Day Brunch
- 1200 Ground Hog Day Race

February 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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
- 22nd 1900 General Meeting
- 25th 1700 Meet & Greet Pub Night



Tony Meek and Gary Morrison toast the New Year with mugs of grog at the Hot Rum Race Brunch on January first. More photos on page 4.

Commodore's Report

By Gary Morrison



On January 1st, the **Hot Rum Race** brought the festive season to an end, with about 70 members on hand to greet the intrepid racers and each other with Happy New Year smiles, hugs and handshakes. At events such as these, the camaraderie enjoyed by members of our Club is most palatable!

Looking forward to the year ahead, the Board is placing particular emphasis on communications. Many of our persistent issues – membership participation, relations with external agencies and interests, readership of our publications, coordination of our efforts – can be addressed as communication issues. **Silk Questo** has accepted the challenge of Communications Director, to work closely with the Board in developing strategies and plans that both refine our existing communication channels and support the communication functions of Board members and their respective committees.

continued on page 1

Commodore's Report

continued from page 1

An immediate change in our communication strategy is to move the publication date of the yearbook back one month, to the end of March. This will provide the necessary lead time to get the information on reciprocals and committee membership up to date for the current year and generally be more forward-focused than retrospective. **Suzan and Ron Chamney** have taken on the job as Yearbook Editors.

Another big change of the New Year, initiation fees, may not proceed exactly as approved at the AGM. The detailed planning for implementation of the new fee structure suggests that the complexity of the boat size variable may not be practical or have the desired effect on the membership. With the Yearbook publication deadline moved back one month, we have the opportunity to give further consideration to the initiation fees. February *TellTales* will likely include a proposal to revisit the initiation fee resolution at our general meeting in February.

Another issue before the Board is liquor regulations. Our past practice of special event permits for serving liquor in the clubhouse is coming under increasing scrutiny. It is possible that we will be restricted in the number of permits that are issued and this, in turn, may limit the number of events involving liquor that can be held at the clubhouse in any given month.

Because of these liquor-related restrictions, it will be necessary to plan our events well in advance and consider our priorities when booking the clubhouse. Please note that ALL events which use Club facilities, whether or not liquor is involved, must be booked through **Susannah Devitt**.

Applications for a special event liquor permit must not be made UNTIL the clubhouse booking has been confirmed by Susannah.

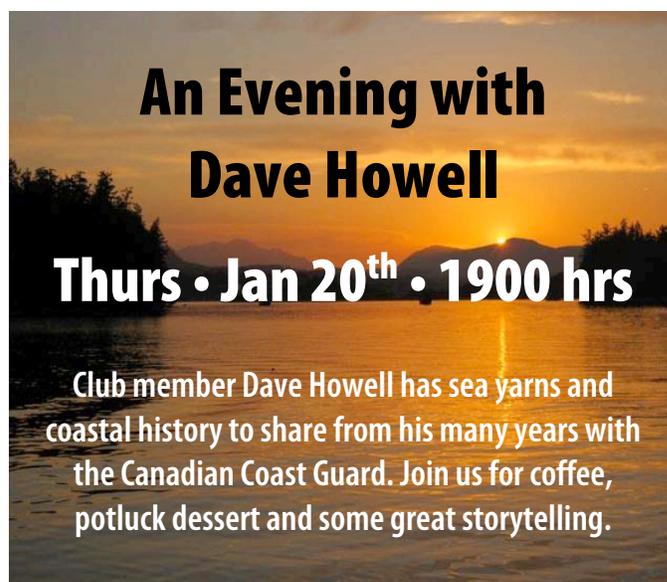
Patrick Beattie has been leading an effort to get a 'private club' license from the Liquor Control Board. This type of license would not limit the

number or frequency of our events but is subject to other regulations related to our physical facility and zoning. We are currently working our way through the associated issues and will have more to report later.

While I am on the topic of liquor, I would like to remind club members that bringing personal liquor into the clubhouse (for instance, bringing your own flask to an event) is illegal and could even compromise our efforts to secure a liquor license. The cooperation of all members, and their guests, is appreciated.

On a more positive note, our many programs are taking shape for the year ahead. Whether cruising or racing, work parties or social events, there is something for everyone. All of these activities are planned and organized with the help of committees. Indeed, the committee work behind the activities can be as satisfying as participation in the activities.

This is the time of year when committee membership is established, so check with **Jenny Barrio**, our volunteer coordinator, to find out which committees are looking for new blood, or contact any of the Board members to offer your services. In particular, I encourage our new members to get involved in a committee. Our sense of belonging to an organization is directly proportionate to what we put into it! ■



**An Evening with
Dave Howell**

Thurs • Jan 20th • 1900 hrs

Club member Dave Howell has sea yarns and coastal history to share from his many years with the Canadian Coast Guard. Join us for coffee, potluck dessert and some great storytelling.

Vice Commodore's Report

By Don Dashwood



For the House and Grounds Committee, 2011 is off to a flying start. We have signed up a terrific committee with a wealth of experience, including many familiar faces around the Club. This would be a great opportunity for new members to work

alongside old hands, and there's always room for more volunteers.

We begin the year with many items to deal with and I have been very busy on issues related to liquor permits, property assessment, fire department, CRD and use of the clubhouse and grounds for non-Club events. There will be lots to report as these matters are sorted out, so stay tuned. ■

Rear Commodore's Report

By Ron Sturm



Our docks suffered minor damage during the exceptionally high tides of Christmas week.

The old D/E Dock got caught high up on a steel-capped piling until the angle-iron framework and planking sacrificed itself.

It has since been repaired. One of our old replacement docks and "Yellow Max" were also damaged. Yellow Max is currently on the beach while we decide whether repair or condemnation is in order. ■

SAILING IS FOR KIDS!

Volunteers are needed for the Juniors Program. Help foster the next generation of sailors!

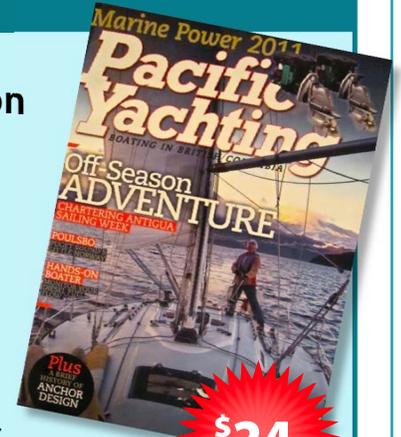
Call Patrick Beattie
250-537-7722



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

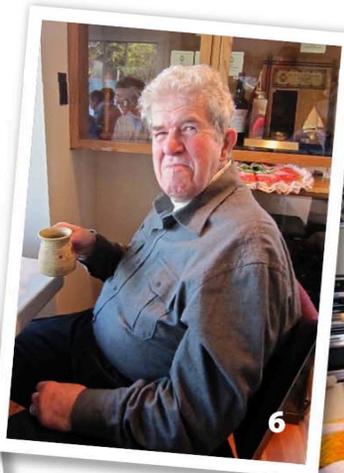
Staff Captain's Report

By Susan Castle



Happy New Year everyone! Our annual **Hot Rum Race** and luncheon was a great success! We had 86 members for lunch. What a great way to catch up with friends and possibly make some new ones. I'd like to thank the galley crew for their help and enthusiasm: **Julie van Soeren, Wendy Vine, Nighean Anderson, David Payne and Daniel Dickmeyer**. Our next event is the **Skipper's Choice Valentine's Potluck**, February 13th at 1800 hours. Bring your sweetheart and your favourite dish and join in the festivities. ■

HOT RUM WARMS A COLD DAY: 1 Arlene Dashwood and Cheryl Gadsby have that hot rum glow; 2 Don Dashwood and Rob Denny (in their new Christmas sweaters perhaps?); 3 The hardworking galley crew slices steaming pot pies; 4 Looks like Harold Brochmann cleaned his plate; 5 Bob Jones digs in; 6 Jim Spencer, caught in mid-sip; 7 Dressed for the chill are April Steel, Arlene Dashwood, Deb McGovern and Gillian Kidd; 8 Let them eat cake! Bob Jones, Eric van Soeren and Phil Erdmer tuck in to



PHOTOS: SILK QUESTO

Secretary's Report

By Michael Clark



There is very little real news to report this month although we do have five new members awaiting interview and three members recently resigned. I also want to thank **Mrs. Victoria Woodman** who, while she has decided that other matters, including heading up the Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary, prevent her from continuing to manage our interview process for new members, has been a great asset in this important role and deserves our appreciation.

There were quite a few admiring enquiries about the blazer badges that Jon Healey and I wore at our annual Christmas banquet, and some wanted to know how to obtain one.



When *HMS Ganges* sailed back to the UK in 1861 she became a training school for the Royal Navy and graduated many seamen who want to continue that association. *HMS Ganges* products can be ordered by going to the website: www.navybluememorabilia.co.uk/products.asp?id=91. I found that the 'Navy Blue' order process was fast and efficient and they have many items in stock. (Just do not let Louse Devlin catch you ordering their Ganges hats and shirts !) ■

Treasurer's Report

By Eric van Soeren



As of December 31, 2010, all Club members had either renewed their membership and paid their dues, moorage and electricity charges or, in a few cases, resigned. Therefore the delinquent members list has been removed from the clubhouse foyer and no names remain on the wall of shame.

Two months into the Club's fiscal year we have approximately \$142,000 in the bank, \$100,000 of which is in a term deposit so we can collect interest while we work towards finalizing the new dock plans. To date, revenues and expenses are staying close to the budget that was approved at the November AGM, so I will close by saying that, in accounting, often no news is good news. ■

Valentine's Day



Skipper's Choice
Potluck Dinner
Sun • Feb 13th • 1800
Share the love!

Booking the Clubhouse?

Contact Susannah Devitt first!
(250) 537-5587 or
clubhouse@saltspingsailing.ca

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

THE YEAR IN REVIEW
Great Memories from 2010



The Racing Forum

By Keith Simpson, *Fleet Captain, Racing*



Please forgive my social ineptitude. In my excitement at becoming the new Fleet Captain, I completely forgot to recognize and thank our departing Captain of three long years, **Pete McGovern**. Pete has provided me with a frightening to-do list, but fortunately he is continuing to provide sage advice and support. Many thanks for Pete's past and present service.

First on the to-do list was assemble the race committee and assign responsibilities. I'd like to introduce (and thank) **Gyle Keating** (co-captain), **Philippe Erdmer** (race results), **Martin Herbert** (race reporting), **Roger Kibble** (handicapping), **Lawrie Neish** (one meters), and most importantly FOOD (**Suzanne Ambers** and **Patrice Pothier**). Since good food seems to improve the turnout for most events, we're hoping to use it to increase participation at the Club.

Two **Snowflake Races** were held in December and attracted eight and six boats respectively. The start of the season **Hot Rum Race** attracted 13 boats with sizeable crews and a clubhouse full of hungry members despite the late night New Year shenanigans just hours before. Need I say more about the power of food? You can read Martin Herbert's stirring accounts of recent races by writing me at racing@saltspringsailing.ca and asking to be added to the distribution list.

Due to some icing problems on the Hot Rum Race, a few boats missed the start, so in order to fairly award the fabulous prizes a random draw was held. True to form, our champion boat *Imp* again took first, and a genuine bottle of Dasani bottled water was presented to **Greg Slakov**. The Black Sheep and Navy rum, however, went to **Jeremy Milsom** and **Eric van Soeren**. ■



COLD DAY, HOT RUM: Racers braving the frosty New Year's Day temperatures were well rewarded with sunny skies, a hot rum chaser, and (for the lucky draw winners) semi-valuable prizes. Greg Slakov (top) walked off with the vintage Dasani water, presented by Keith Simpson, aided and abetted by Susannah Devitt. Thrifty Race Captain Simpson chose quality over quantity (above) for the rum prizes, but hey—he gave it a shot (literally)!

Dinghy Fleet Report

By Patrick Beattie, *Fleet Captain, Dinghy*



Plans are well under way for the summer sailing school, and a new junior program for members up to age 18. This will include racing, fun events, and great courses.

That being said, we are still looking for volunteers to serve on the Junior Sailing committee. We need people for boat repair and maintenance, junior racing, administration, advertising and a list of volunteer dock people for the sailing school. Please consider getting

involved – it's a great way to stay young! If you are interested please call me at (250) 537-7722, or email dinghy@saltspringsailing.ca.

There are applications for Junior membership at the clubhouse for anyone who is interested in joining the Club. The new program promises to be fun and informative. Recruiting Junior members will add vitality to our club, and we need your help to introduce youth to the great sport of sailing and a lifetime of seamanship. If you know someone who's a candidate for Junior membership, please send them our way! See you at the club! ■

International One Metre Report

By Martin Herbert, CAN 84

Nothing can hold us back, still practicing for the big races this year. Happy sailing to you all! ■



Editor's Note: It's only January, but I'm giving this report the TellTales A-Picture-is-Worth-a-Thousand Words Award for 2011! ■

BUY & SELL

BOAT EXCHANGE

JULY 2011 BOAT EXCHANGE – Any fellow SISC members interested in exchanging their sailboat for mine on Lake Ontario, docked at RCYC in Toronto? Sail western Lake Ontario, or over to Niagara-On-The-Lake for the Shaw Festival. My boat, *Capilano*, is a Hughes Columbia 29', outfitted with most comforts of sailing. Sleeps 6 with enclosed cockpit and handled solo with ease. I am looking to exchange with another sailor for the first two weeks in July. Please get in touch if you would like to explore the idea. Contact:

Marnie Keith-Murray

Phone: 1-315-297-9890

Email: marniekm@mac.com

What's Cooking?

Part of cruising is enjoying great food aboard. Would you like to share your favourite dish with others at a clubhouse galley get-together? Let's get cooking! Call Susannah Devitt (250) 537-5587

Cruising News

By Susannah Devitt, *Fleet Captain, Cruising*



Doesn't everybody love stories – especially sea stories? I am excited to announce that SISC member **Dave Howell** is coming to our club on Thursday, January 20th at 1900 hours to share his experiences and history of our

local waters. Dave spent many years working with the Canadian Coast Guard. He is a passionate speaker and loves to share. On that note of sharing, we will make it tea, coffee and dessert. Please bring your favorite dessert.

Our Club is run by many awesome people who have a passion for the water, racing, cruising and

sharing knowledge on boat topics like maintenance, chart reading, cruising and so much more. We want to hear from you about your own interests and needs. How can other members add to your boating knowledge and skills? And what can you teach them from your own experience? Without sharing, this club would not exist.

Please share your expert knowledge (*everyone* has something to give!) and add to your required volunteer hours during the year, *beyond* the work parties or Round Salt Spring Race. I encourage you to fill out the survey below, communicate your questions or ideas with the Directors and let's kick it up a notch for 2011. ■

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

Okay, it's the beginning of a new year, so I'm going to give you an easy one in hopes of getting lots of entries this time! Many local boaters pass by this small harbour for years, on the way to or from other ports, without turning in to explore. But this former mill town has lots to offer, including a vibrant theatre and the collection of murals that have made the village famous. Where are we? Send your guess to telltales@saltspringsailing.ca for a chance at great club gear prize!



Editor's Log

Happy New Year to all! It's that month when we get in touch with our inner angels and make resolutions for the coming year. There's the usual list most of us revisit every time January rolls around ... getting back on a fitness regime, shedding those extra Christmas pounds, crossing a few more things off the perennial 'to-do' list, or maybe learning something new that's always interested us.

While you're thinking about resolutions, I'd like to put in a word for volunteering at the Sailing Club. **Wait! Don't stop reading.** Stick with me here. Lots of members are incredibly generous with their time, and we all benefit a great deal from their dedication. Ask some of the folks who *always* show up – not only at work parties or big events, but whenever they're needed – why they do it. My guess is there are lots of reasons, but one in particular they all share: there's a lot of satisfaction in being part of, and contributing to, a member-driven club like ours. In other words, you get out of it what you put into it. Hmm. Sounds much like life in general.

All members agree to 20 hours of volunteer time a year when they join – that's an obligation. But it's also an opportunity. To learn, to have fun, to serve, to share, and to make lasting friendships. How about making a resolution to get a little more involved this year? Woody Allen is attributed with the quip "half of life is just showing up." I say it's a good start. But why stop there?



Silk Questo

Editor | telltales@saltspringsailing.ca

The December contest winners ...



... are **Gene Drzymala and Sharon Hawke**, who identified this 'lighthouse' as a familiar landmark on the dock at **Pierre's Echo Bay Resort** in the Broughtons. Makes you wish it was summer right now, doesn't it? Gene and Sharon, I'll be in touch when you can pick up your prize!



TellTales is a publication of the Saltspring Island Sailing Club
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deadline: Sunday, Feb 6th**