

Tell Tales

Volume 31 • Number 4 • April 2012



Calendar

April 2012

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					

- 3rd 1600 Board Meeting/Long Term Planning
- 8th 1030 Round Prevost Race
- 13th 1800 Richard Clarke Olympic Fundraiser
- 21st-22nd Bedwell Harbour Cruise
- 22nd 1030 McMillan Trophy Race

May 2012

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	29	30	31		

- 1st 1900 Board Meeting
- 6th 1100 Opening Day & Sailpast
- 6th 1330 No Flying Sails Race
- 13th 0800 Sailing School Open House
- 18th-20th Round Saltspring Race
- 18th-21st Round Saltspring Cruise
- 29th 1900 General Meeting



Have wrench, will travel. Work Party volunteers Kevin Morris and Rod Macdonald tackle the water lines, cheered on by Rear Commodore Bob Jones. More pictures start on page 4.

Commodore's Report

by Derek Castle



Spring is in the air, as many Club members turned out for the Work Party on March 31st, which was a great success. As well as the chores that were accomplished, it was an excellent opportunity to greet other members and enjoy the fine food arranged by **Maggie Snee, Debbie Wrate, Duart Campbell** and our kitchen crew.

The **Marina Renovation Project** now is in the home stretch. Another recent milestone was attained with the electrical power system being connected and operational for all receptacles on all docks. The final items will be completed over the next few weeks, as our dedicated volunteers continue to make it happen. At the same time, all SISC boats that were moored temporarily at the RVCY-Scott Point outstation have returned home.

I would ask all members to visit our **new website**, which is a welcome communication platform based on being user friendly,
continued on page 2

Commodore's Report

continued from page 1

technically contemporary and very attractive. No doubt, it will become our go-to source for Club (and other) information, while evolving over time as a dynamic and inter-active resource.

Recently, I had the opportunity to review an advance copy of the **2012 Yearbook**, and similar to other critical ventures of SISC, I gained a new appreciation for the extensive volunteer work involved with its preparation. I hope that you enjoy this publication, both as a pleasure to read and as a key reference record for the many aspects of our Club.

The Round Saltspring Planning Committee went live with its new online registration system on March 29th, and within three days had processed 29 entrants, without any glitches. This outcome is most impressive, and was achieved by the teamwork of **Mark Strongman** and **Silk Questo**.

I represented SISC at the recent annual **Vancouver Island Commodores' meeting**, which was hosted by the Nanaimo Yacht Club this year. Although the group took time to socialize and make connections, this session was a most productive and open discussion about various issues and opportunities shared by our respective Clubs. The full agenda covered topics ranging from volunteer engagement to liquor licenses to derelict vessels and much more. A very worthwhile event from which I will follow further with my colleagues.

SISC has received several formal neighbour complaints over the past few months, despite our continued efforts to foster a good neighbour relations strategy, that will require ongoing diligence. In this regard, one issue for which members easily could demonstrate more awareness is to ensure slowing down to a maximum speed of 30 kph on Douglas Road.

Over the past few weeks, the Board plus **Jon Healey** and **Pete McGovern** spent considerable time on long-term planning. Our methodology

employed was to build from the baseline developed in 2011, whereby six fundamental goals were established and reviewed with the membership. Our task was to develop a critical few action plans to move forward with meeting the challenges and opportunities associated with these goals.

The discussions focused on "Volunteers and Assets" which are the core accountabilities of the Club, that in turn accommodate our various functions and activities. Within this framework, we examined an identified Volunteer Culture Gap (too few members doing too much work), Foreshore Assets, Clubhouse & Grounds and our Financial Forecast over a 10 year time horizon. As further progress is achieved for specific items, they will be reported to the Board, and reviewed with the membership as appropriate.

Although all engagements for the *Oriole* recently were cancelled through mid-May due to an extensive refit project beyond expectations, I am most pleased to announce that her crew has been authorized to attend the SISC Opening Day and Sailpast ceremonies and activities ... but will be "sailing" aboard *Caribou (PCT 57)*, one of the ORCA navy patrol ships. Same plan, different boat!



As Opening Day is a traditional event that celebrates our membership in SISC, and demonstrates our appreciation for the Board and Club Volunteers, I would ask that all members plan to attend. **Keith Simpson**, Fleet Captain Racing, has the lead role for organization of the Sailpast, and has outlined the protocol on the following page. I look forward to seeing everyone at our Opening Day Sailpast on Sunday, May 6th. ■

Annual Sailpast – Sunday, May 6, 2012

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, it can also be one of the more confusing of the Club's activities, so please read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the following information.

This year's event will take place on Sunday, May 6th. 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. The Fleet Captain Racing on *Soul Thyme* will lead the Sailpast.

Here is what happens: **Commodore Derek Castle will go aboard the Royal Canadian Navy Ship *Caribou*, which will anchor 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: Gary Morrison on *Iwalani* – 26' sailboat.
- Current Vice Commodore: Don Dashwood on *Aquila Mia* – 37' sailboat.

- Current Rear Commodore: Bob Jones on *Oasis* – 41' 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 *Caribou*, the national flag should be lowered to the 1/3 hoist position. The Flagship hosting the Commodore will respond by lowering its flag. When the flag is raised 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, and the crew of the *Caribou* 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 6th 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. ■

Vice Commodore's Report

by Don Dashwood



Another milestone for the club on April 9th! We had our first official visit from Castor Consultants today and passed inspection. Rob Waters and Rob Russell of Castor Consultants had a thorough look at the riparian replant and approved of our work.

A very big thank you to Richard Stevenson for all his work. Richard prepared the drawings for our proposed plant selection and layout, worked out the details with Castor Consulting, contacted a nursery that had a good selection of started native plants and looked after getting the plants here to Saltspring.

We had a great turnout for the March 31st Work Party. For the Riparian Area Restoration Plan there were at least 20 members working on preparing the area and digging in the **287** various native plants. On the following Wednesday we had another great turnout with a dozen members placing cardboard collars around the new plants and then covering the entire area with a straw ground cover. There is also now a sprinkler line to ensure that these new plants survive.

There are too many members to name and thank here. I do believe there will be an event coming where the Club will be naming and thanking all those that have given so much of their time for the completion of the **Great Dock and Dredge Project of 2011 and 2012.**

Other projects completed at the Work Party by our member volunteers for House and Grounds included a new window installed to replace the old window that fell apart in getting new electrical outlets to service the Round Saltspring event in the middle parking lot. We had the windows cleaned along with much general clean up. We also now have the larger 1½" waterline hooked up to North Saltspring Water. All the fittings, tees, elbows, valves and new meter have been connected and dug in and placed in new valve boxes up at the top of the property. Again, a big thank you to all of those that have turned out to get the Club back to working order. ■

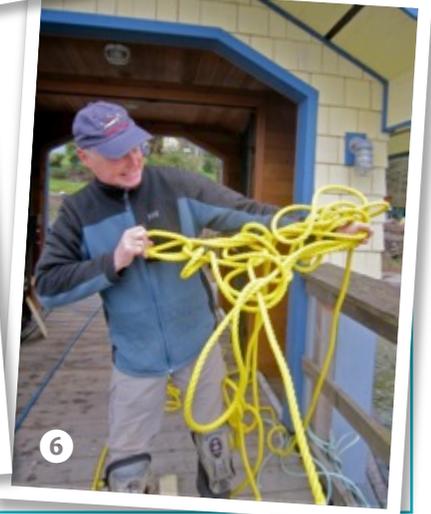
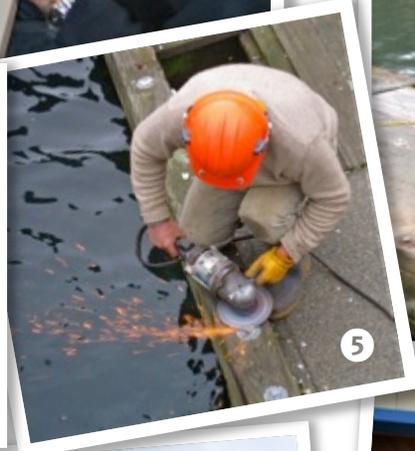
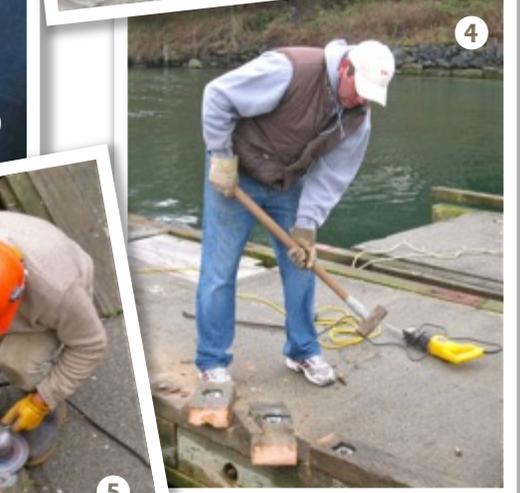
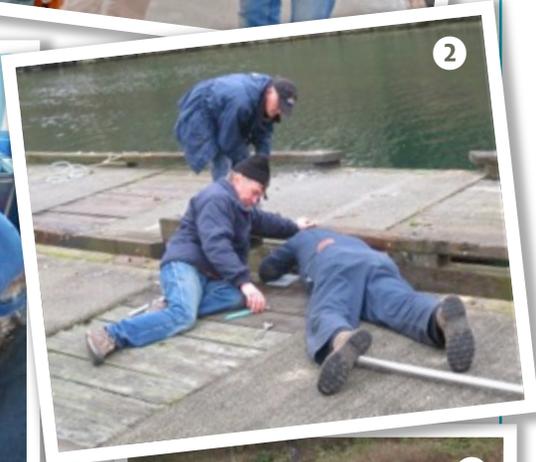


A SLIPPERY SLOPE ...

① Workers planting the riparian area on the wet, gooey slope had a steep challenge ② Tree planters cheerfully brave the damp ③ A few backs and knees had to be sore the next day ④ Derek Sowden is the inside man helping the window crew install the replacement window ⑤ Jeremy Milsom does a sparkling job of washing the windows.

Work, Work, Work ... Party!

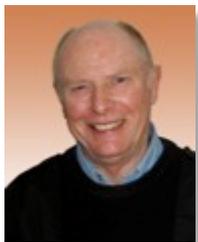
- ❶ Ron Sturm and Gary Morrison – two happy guys!
- ❷ Dinghy dock acrobatics
- ❸ Damp workers warm up with hot chili
- ❹ Perry Ruehlen swings a mean hammer
- ❺ Whew, these dinghy docks are a real grind
- ❻ Philippe Erdmer tries to untangle the Gordian Knot
- ❼ Tony Burridge pitches in
- ❽ Roger Kibble, ever competitive, tries for the Best Dressed Worker award
- ❾ Kevin Vine and Peter Grove heave ho
- ❿ Tony Meek is ready for coffee
- ⓫ Chris Gadsby's just happy it's downhill
- ⓬ The Ruehlens show you're never too young to help out.



PHOTOS: COLLEEN SHANTZ AND SILK QUESTO

Marina Renovation Update #11

by Gary Morrison, *Past Commodore*



The Marina Renovation Project commandeered many of the Spring Work Party volunteers to put the finishing touches on the project. Thus **Derek Barrio** had an enthusiastic crew to reconstruct some of the old docks for tender storage; **Tony**

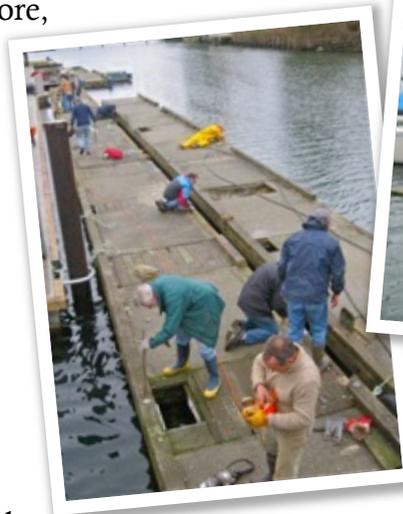
Meek had lots of help getting the Junior Program docks back in place; and **Rod Macdonald** made good use of volunteer apprentice plumbers to install the new water system.

Don Dashwood and **Bob Jones**, both of whom are project managers as well as Board members responsible for house/grounds and the foreshore, pooled the ample volunteer resources available at the Spring Work Party to tackle the work that had to be done, whether the marina project or normal maintenance.

While the Spring Work Party accomplished a great deal toward the completion of the marina project, Derek, Tony, Rod, Don and Bob, with their volunteer crews, have carried on over the past couple of weeks. Most of the dock fixtures, fabricated with the support of Bellavance Welding, are now installed; the riparian planting is complete (and has passed inspection with flying colours), the tender docks

are getting ready for the storage racks, and as of April 14th we now have the water flowing! New light fixtures, featuring ultra efficient LED lights, will be installed on all docks over the next two weeks.

The last pieces to fall into place are the paper work for closing the loop on our permits and contracts. Our biological and engineering consultants have completed their final inspections; the official surveys have been done and as-built drawings have been provided by **Greg Slakov**; while the legalities of winding up contracts are underway. Before long, all that will remain will be the celebrations of completion! ■



A swarm of workers tackle the dinghy docks (left), while others bring the Junior docks back home (above).

Channels

by Silk Questo, *Communications Director*



We're "live" in cyberspace! Our new website had its "soft" launch on March 26th, and we'll continue to add, tweak, improve and update over time. Our Member Resources area is the next phase we're working on. If you haven't had a chance to visit the new site, please have a tour through it now. Send me your comments! ■



Rear Commodore's Report

by Bob Jones



Easter was a beautiful weekend. It started well on the Thursday before Good Friday when the team of **Ole Andersen, Taylor Devlin, Peter Toby, David Questo** and myself were set to install the aluminium dock fittings that David and I had been working on.

David struggled down the ramp with a very impressive air compressor and assorted air tools while other team members had the more usual variety of hand and electric tools. By the end of the day 37 safety ladder supports and 24 water stands had been installed with a total of 220 stainless steel ½ " lag bolts. The new docks were starting to look complete. The essential plumbing continued under the direction of **Rod Macdonald**, ably assisted by **Kevin Morris**.

Far below the pier, **Lawrie Neish** and **Roger Kibble** were mining in the mud hoping to find the tidal grid. In this endeavour, they were successful and after power washing and the cutting of an approach channel it appears usable. Some timber blocks will need to be replaced and both lighting and a water point are in the plans for completion. A booking form will be placed on the Club notice board.

Derek Barrio and **Hugh Preddy** have a large team refurbishing the better of the old docks on which the boat tender racks will be installed, while across from D Dock, **Patrick Beattie** and **Tony Meek** are leading another team installing the Sailing School dinghy docks. I congratulate these team leaders and club members who are achieving a great deal of dock development and rebuilding.

All the above was going on after a successful work party only a week before. Of particular note on this day were the efforts of **Peter Toby** and **Taylor Devlin** with a power washer cleaning and making less slippery the wobbly fingers on B Dock. There

is much more to do in this regard on the Breakwater and C docks. My gas power washer is in the shed at the turn round. Any volunteer comfortable with a 2000 lb psi washer should contact me.

Ben Sutton re-installed the dock water shut off box and **Ray Martin** and **Tony Burrige** applied the peel and stick barrier to our safety ladder uprights. There were also many more helpers – you know who you are! Thank you.

As most of you will know, **Ron Sturm** along with Island Electric have got the power to all the docks and it remains only to get the lighting to the docks and the pier. We expect delivery of the lights shortly, meanwhile the wiring to the lights is being installed.

I am happy to announce that water is now on A,B,D & E docks. As we are upgrading C Dock to 1.5 inch main line. this dock plus F dock and the Breakwater will take a little longer.

One last note. There is a sag on the seaward side of one float of F Dock. IMC has inspected by diver who was unable to see a problem. We believe a flotation tank will be beneficial, which IMC is sourcing and pricing. Lots more stuff to get done but that is enough for this month. ■



*TOP: Bob Jones and Scott Chapman supervise as Derek Barrio gets the fire pump pumping.
RIGHT: Ray*

Staff Captain's Report

by Maggie Snee



Our St. Patrick's Day speaker event featured **Melva Geldreich** talking and showing her pictures of a year's worth of tripping around the South Pacific. It was well attended even though there were many other events going on simultaneously that weekend.

Thank you **Jill Louise Campbell** and **Duart Campbell** for helping with the set up and take down and also for supplying the most wonderful brownies and cookies for refreshment.

The **Spring Work Party and Clean Up** day was also a resounding success with somewhere between 60 to 80 people fed. Again **Duart Campbell** stepped up to the plate and provided a

wonderful chili with the trimmings and scones. Then for dessert his now famous wonderful brownies again! Thanks to **Chris Smart, Karen Kilshaw, Donna Dobson, Shirley McLaughlin** and **Susan Paynter** for their great help in the food prep (if I missed your name please don't be offended – I was not able to be there so am not aware of everyone who helped, but thank you anyway!).

But very special thanks to **Debbie Wrate** who stepped in at the last minute to supervise the food prep and serving, set-up and clean-up because I sustained a back injury the day before and could not walk. Thanks so much Debbie!

Next on the agenda for the social calendar you will notice the **Opening Day and Sailpast** on May 6th, for which I will need a few helping hands for set-up and clean-up. I greatly appreciate the spirit of volunteerism that seems to be very much alive and well in my neck of the club woods. Thanks so much everyone for your efforts on the Staff Captain's behalf. ■



PHOTOS: COLLEEN SHANTZ AND SILK QUESTO

- ① *Melva Geldreich gave a fascinating talk about her adventures in the South Seas*
- ② ③ *Treasures from Melva's travels*
- ④ *The wearin' of the green was not forgotten on St. Patty's day by Derek Barrio ...*
- ⑤ *... or by Lorne Shantz, here with Lynn Clark*
- ⑥ *Michael Clark enjoys a coffee break and a rest from the riparian planting at the Spring Work Party*
- ⑦ *Hugh Greenwood digs in to the delicious chili prepared for the Work Party.*

Secretary's Report

by Peter Howell



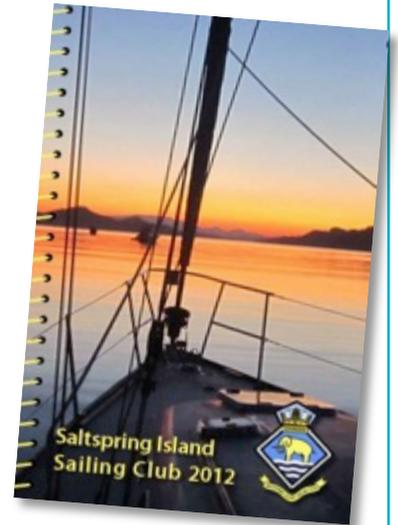
I am pleased to announce several new members to the Club, who were accepted at the April Board meeting. New Regular members include **Richard and Kimberly Ballantyne** (profiled below), and **Norman and Tina Rothwell**.

A new Associate member, **Lenice Jacobson**, was also accepted. Lenice owns and operates a spa in Grace Point Square (just in case you feel really stressed, you will know where to go). Please welcome these new members to the Club!

I currently have five membership applications that I am working on and have had numerous requests for information. As the new website continues to add new features such as electronic forms, administrative processes such as membership applications will become more convenient for Club volunteers, sponsors and applicants alike. Perhaps more important, both current and

prospective members will have an easily referenced source of information on the benefits and obligations of membership, Club programs and events, and opportunities for volunteers.

I'm happy to report that the **2012 Club Yearbook** is expected to be delivered by the printer before the end of April. Thanks to **Suzan and Ron Chamney** for their work on the design and production, and to **Silk Questo** for content and editing. Members will be notified when yearbooks and membership cards are available for pick-up at the clubhouse – a great reason to drop by the Club, especially if you haven't been there recently to see all the progress on the marina. ■



NEW FACES AT SISC

Richard and Kimberly Ballantyne

Rich and Kimberly moved to Salt Spring in 2011, but have been coming to Salt Spring since the early 1980's when Rich's dad, Past Commodore Jim Ballantyne, moved here.

Rich is a mechanical engineer and spent his career in the energy industry, first with Shell Canada and then with Trans Mountain Pipe Line and BC Gas, and now does some consulting and sits on corporate boards. Kimberly was an educator at Vancouver Aquarium for 10 years and is an avid volunteer



with organizations such as Dress for Success and Meals on Wheels. Their daughter Kate is studying chemistry at Concordia University.

They have cruised the coast for over 25 years, much of that time on a C&C 30 decorated with pink flamingos and currently on the Jeanneau 37 *Jolly Mon*. Rich is also an active racing sailor, sailing on the restored 1928 R-Class *Lady Van*, Martin 242, Laser, Farr 30 and many others. He is also the Technical Chair and Race Officer for Vic Maui 2012, and Commodore-for-Life of the Scott Point Old Guys Laser Sailing Club.

Racing Forum

by Keith Simpson, *Fleet Captain Racing*



Brisk winds made for some fun sailing in the **Spring Regatta**. *Velica*, *Bravo Zulu*, *Imp* and *Deryn Mor* enjoyed some very close racing while most others were away holidaying. All the finishes were very close, but *Velica* came out on top.

The **Round Penders** two day single-handed race attracted a full fleet of 10 sail boats and one power boat. We disqualified Pete for double handing on Wayne's new trawler. Despite forecasts of strong northerlies and promises of a quick run to Browning Harbour, we ended up with shifting, unpredictable squirrel winds most of the way. The

group split in two halves around Prevost, then rejoined in Navy Channel where dead spots reshuffled the fleet. Everyone got in about the same time and early enough to

enjoy the sunshine and moonshine on Wayne's flying bridge. Eric, who flagrantly disregarded the course by sailing around the finish line, was given a beer buying penalty in a close vote. Martin won the day and should have been given a yellow shirt but everything seemed to be going green. The pub was hopping with St. Patrick's Day celebrations and there were some critters with green ears running around inside.

The next day started with a slow beat against the current up to Blunden Island. Boats gradually squeaked through the narrow channel ... well actually two crunched their way through but without inflicting serious damage. The leaders,

who thought they got away, waited patiently for everyone to catch up near Poet's Cove. We expected a slow sail back so we set a short course option near the Channel Islands. Sure enough, about 6:00 pm the wind died and even *Imp*, who was well ahead, gave up after most boats had completed the short course. *Kay D* was a shoo-in for the win with two first place finishes.

We ran the second try of **Portland-Moresby** on April 1st. Actually, I was only fooling when I announced it but a whole bunch of people and eight boats showed up, so we ran it and it worked. 26 miles is a fair ways to go in a day sail.

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ROUND PENDERS – Above: *Ole ... it's time to tack!*; Right: *Kay D in the danger zone*; Post-race festivities at Browning Hbr.

Racing Forum

continued from page 10

I nearly had my first sailing fatality that day. A new crewman visiting from the

Kootenays took ill during the race. We thought it was hypothermia but it turned out to be a serious blood infection. The ambulance got him to hospital in time and he has

recovered. The other good news is everyone finished the race behind *Kay D*, *Paramour* and *Imp* who were 1,2,3.

I have it on good authority that a new high tech red hot racing boat named *Albátro* will be coming to our Club very soon. We'll be posting more info on the Club website, check it out! Race schedule, upcoming events and results are all there.

Ratings, ratings, ratings seems to be a hot topic with sailors. I plan to do an analysis of the spread in finish times for the last few years. If the current system has reduced the spread then we will have to congratulate Roger. It's kind of nice to start a race when you don't know who is going to win.

Registration has opened for **Round Saltspring** using our brand new system. Please sign up early, we would hate to have to reject a member when our cap of 120 is reached. Everything is new and improved this year, including the prizes. Don't miss out!

We will have the Royal Canadian Navy ship *Caribou* at our docks for the May 6th Sailpast instead of the *Oriole*, which is in for a refit. We will be hosting her crew for lunch and there are opportunities for 40 Club members to tour the ship and even go for a test drive. I think the executive may have taken the first 10 spots. If you are interested contact me.

If you are not into racing, you should try it. There is never a dull moment on or off the water! ■

International One Metre Report

by Martin Herbert, IOM 199

The end of March saw our first regatta of the year, "Beaver Fever" held on Beaver Lake in Victoria. I was the only Saltspring boat to make the trek over for this two day event. Beaver Lake is notorious for light shifty winds and weeds, so is not usually thought of as a prime venue but this was the weekend not to miss. Two full days of strong steady wind made for delightful sailing and great racing. The Victoria fleet has spent the winter building new boats designed by Brad Gibson, who had first, second and third place boats in last year's World Championship.

The locals had chosen to build his Ska design and had high hope of kicking butt. Graham Herbert of Hornby also had a new boat, *Coyote*, and this was the debut race for my new design, an Aero II, the *Dee K*.

Saturday had the strongest winds, top of A rig with some nose diving

downwind in the gusts. We had 22 races the first day and the *Dee K* was in her element, showing good speed and good control in the stronger blasts. At the end of Day One she was in the lead by one point and had won a third of the races. *Coyote* had won an extra race but also had some bad results. The stage was set for a showdown between these two boats on Day Two. The Ska's and the rest of the fleet shared the remaining firsts with every boat in the fleet getting a top three finish place over the course of the regatta. On Day Two the *Dee K* came out blazing and won the first two races but then *Coyote* found her tune and put together a very impressive string of wins to take the title. These two boats won all the races on Day Two. The *Dee K* came back on the last long distance race to take the final win and second place overall. I was very pleased with how my new boat sailed. ■

Above: The Dee K, 99, marching to the finish line, threading through the fleet heading to the lee mark, to win the 35th race.

PHOTO: MARTIN HERBERT



2012 Olympics Update

For the latest news, visit www.clarkebjornsailing.com

Most of us go sailing on vacation. For **Richard Clarke**, now training for London 2012 on a brand new Star, a vacation means a rest from sailing. Our globetrotting Olympian managed to get a few days at home on The Rock, and treated a lucky, sell-out crowd of fellow sailors and supporters to an evening of storytelling at Auntie Pesto's on Friday, April 13th. The superb dinner, prepared by Red Seal Chef Shawn Walton, was "enhanced" by liberal doses of wine as Richard delivered an enlightening account of his racing career highlights – from Olympic competitions to the round-the-world



Volvo Ocean Race. It was a creative and entertaining fundraiser – a great way to get to know the man at the tiller, and his amazing family "team," wife **Andria Scanlan** and daughter **Zoë**.

But for Richard, and crewmate Tyler Bjorn, time off is shortlived and competition calls. A major event in Hyères, France April 18-27 will be followed by the Star Class World Championships starting May 1st.

While the Clarke/Bjorn team has already qualified for the Olympics, they expect to see fierce competition at the Worlds for the last four berths.

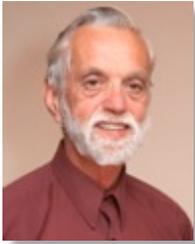
Meanwhile, all this campaigning costs money, and the Clarke/Bjorn team is still actively fundraising. If you'd like to ride along – literally – on their upcoming events, consider making a donation to their **Get Onboard** program, and have your name inscribed on their boat. Go to www.getonboard.ca to learn more. ■



SEA STORIES AND MORE – Above: Highlights included the Best, the Worst, the Scariest, the Coldest and more. Right (from top): Richard autographs a book, supervised by daughter Zoë; the enthusiastic crowd included a big crew of Club members.

Wharfinger's Report

by Hugh Preddy



Electrical

The winter electrical period ends April 30th and I am in the process of checking the one month's winter consumption. The summer allotment will be checked in May so be sure to adjust for your usage starting May 1st. Since members

did not state nor pay for their anticipated power requirements with their moorage payments last October, I now need to know. If in doubt, contact me to check your consumption. Billing will be calculated on my measurements and or your notification of requirements.

Dinghy Docks

The initial portion of the dinghy docks are expected to be in place by the third week of April. Each dinghy should be identified by either the owner's name or boat name.

Duty Wharfinger

The daily wharfinger scheduled is now posted in the club house entrance and will be moved to the pier gatehouse later. This is an opportunity to fulfill your

required 20 volunteer hours if you haven't already, it's also a great time to do some work on your boat.

Slip Sign-Out Board

Please remember to log your boat's departure and planned return dates on the white board located in the gate house. We expect more reciprocal visiting boats this year due to the addition of new reciprocal clubs and those wanting to check out our new docks. We will need your vacant slips!

Round Saltspring Race

This year Heinz Vitovec is sharing the wharfinger responsibilities with me. His phone is 250-653-4881 and email is hvitovec@shaw.ca. We are expecting 120 boats for the Round Saltspring Race (May 18 - May 21). Will those members who will be on the scheduled cruise that weekend please contact Heinz as we will require every spare slip. Since the dock configuration has changed we may have to request those members whose slips are longitudinal along D Dock, to move their boats temporarily to ensure racers are not rafted to them. ■

Dinghy Fleet Report

by Patrick Beattie, *Fleet Captain Dinghy*



The Club was fortunate to be able to secure a great deal to replace *Beluga*, our aging inflatable safety boat, with a brand new Venus 390. This purchase was funded primarily by a grant from the CRD for the Junior Sailing Program.

Plans for the Summer Sailing School are well in hand, and the committee is busy making plans for the Junior Sailing Program. **Sailing School Open House and Registration** will be held at the clubhouse on Sunday May 13th from 10:00 am to

1:00 pm. Prospective students will have the opportunity to meet some of the instructors and perhaps take a little sail (weather permitting). Watch the website for more information on dates and course offerings.

Junior Members and their parents are reminded that invoices for dues will be issued in May and are due on June 1st. ■



Cruising News

by Tanya Van Ginkel, *Fleet Captain Cruising*



It really feels like spring! Yay, time to start cruising! The first Club cruise of the season is April 21st and 22nd to **Bedwell Harbour**. There will be a scavenger hunt Saturday afternoon at two-ish, starting from Poet's Cove. This will be followed by a potluck supper and blind dinghy racing on the Poet's Cove Marina breakwater.



As previously mentioned you have lots of options for the night: grab a mooring at Beaumont Marine Park (*at left*), reserve a spot at the Poet's Cove Marina (on the breakwater if

you can), or anchor in the area between the two. We hope to arrive Friday night, but it may be Saturday morning. Look for sailing vessel *Kialoa* (Tanya or Scott) on the breakwater if you have any questions after arrival. To reserve space at Poet's Cove Marina, please call 1-866-888-2683. Also please let us know if you plan to attend. Email cruising@saltspringsailing.ca or call 250-537-1965.

Many of you will have received the details of the **May Round Saltsping Cruise** via email, but here it is again as a reminder:

Join the **Ruehlens** (Perry, Lyall, Calla and Seija) and the **Vines** (Kevin and Wendy) for a three-night Round Saltsping Cruise during the long weekend in May! We'll free up space for all the visiting Round Saltsping Race boats at the Club and have a blast at our own speed! Our itinerary:

Friday afternoon, May 18th – Meet and anchor at Russell Island, for Happy Hour and potluck appetizers on the beach.

Saturday, May 19th – Make our way (probably past/through the racing fleet) to Maple Bay Yacht Club (*below*), who have enthusiastically endorsed our proposal. We will take advantage of reciprocal moorage there and have a potluck finger food dinner together on their grounds. We might even bring out the croquet set.

Sunday, May 20th – Leave in the morning and head for Princess Cove on Wallace Island. Sansum Narrows will be cooperative at that time. Perhaps an afternoon walk or beachcomb, possibilities of prawning along the way, and definitely Happy Hour and potluck appetizers aboard the Ruehlens' *Inside Passage*.

Monday, May 21st – Catch the morning ebb tide down Trincomali, back home.

Please contact **Wendy Vine** or email cruising@saltspringsailing.ca to let us know if you are planning to attend. Wendy needs to confirm space for you at MBYC and they need our numbers and boat lengths as soon as possible. There will be more details of this cruise in May's *TellTales* and on the website, but do save the dates May 18th–21st as it promises to be a great time! ■





Round Saltspring 2012 Update

Months of careful planning have paid off for our new Registration system and race website as all systems are working well. Registration opened on March 29th, and as of April 13th we have 45 boats registered for the Round Saltspring Race. We plan to continue to remind the 150+ prior entrants on our database, distribute posters on Vancouver Island and in Vancouver, and provide **regular updates on our website**.

The band (the Fabulous Flakes!) is ready for Friday evening May 18th along with **Richard Clarke** our Olympic sailor. The Salmon BBQ on Friday, and the Sunday May 20th Lamb BBQ are ready to go. Don't forget that if you plan to be a "social attendee" at the BBQ's only, you can order meal tickets in advance via our new website. You can also visit the **Schedule of Events** for more details. Race and Club gear can also be ordered via the website.

The Race Officer and Committee have well organized plans for the Start and Finish. If you would like to help out with either, more volunteers may be needed. Call **Lawrie Neish** at 250-537-2053. Thanks so much to everyone involved. This will be a fun time for all!

Chris Gadsby, Chair
Round Saltspring 2012

Get all the details
on our race website
saltspringsailing.ca/rss12



Pre-order Your Round Saltspring Racewear Now!



- T-shirts
- Piqué Sport Shirts
- Hoodies
- Denim Shirts
- Technolite Jackets
- Microfleece Shirts

Pre-order by May 4th
(also available Race Week-end while selection lasts)



Ordering is easy!

Check out our online catalogue at saltspringsailing.ca/rss12 download the PDF order form and give to Louise Devlin. Questions? call Louise at 250-537-4622, or email merchandise@saltspringsailing.ca

Parting Shots

This will be one for the more adventurous northern cruisers. Anyone lucky enough to have tied up at this multi-generational, family-run port of call will not mistake the parade of international flags that line the pier. The windswept sky and wilderness in the background should tell you you're far from Saltspring Island. The surprise here? A fine dining restaurant and a resort with artistic flair on an island with barely more than a handful of residents. For a great prize from our Club gear stash, where are we? Send your guess to: telltales@saltspringsailing.ca



Editor's Log

You can feel the energy in the atmosphere around the Club these days. It's finally Spring! Shiny new docks! Spring clean-up accomplished! Start of cruising season! Opening Day and Sailpast coming up! Races in actual sunshine! Brand new website! Round Saltspring 'round the corner!

Life is good.

Not to sound like a broken record, but one of the best ways to keep up Club spirit and energy is communicate, communicate, communicate. A great deal of work goes into keeping members informed: *TellTales*, Yearbook, Club website, and even our soon-to be renovated bulletin boards (more on that in the May *TellTales*). My thanks to all those who contribute so much to these efforts.

Just a reminder, though, that communication is a two-way street. I encourage all members to be pro-active about staying informed, and to share your own knowledge and news. It's easier now than ever. Surf on over to our new website (go ahead ... really ... right now). And when your 2012 Yearbook is ready, don't wait – pick it up. And read it.

One of the best things about our Club is being part of a great crew. So please make the effort to stay connected. It's like a Spring tonic!

Silk Questo

Editor | telltales@saltspringsailing.ca



March's contest winner ...



Lots of correct answers this time from our sharp-eyed cruisers, so I had to dig out the dice to roll for a winner. Congratulations to **Nick Hodson** for identifying beautiful **Silva Bay** on Gabriola Island. It's a great place to venture out from on a Northern cruise, and an equally welcome haven after a westward crossing of the Georgia Strait. Nick, you can pick up your prize in the clubhouse lobby!



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**TellTales May Deadline:
Tuesday, May 8th, 2012**