

From: Saltspring Island Sailing Club sisc@wildapricot.org
Subject: Crowsnest for 2023 03 20 through 2023 04 02
Date: March 20, 2023 at 3:41 PM
To: Todd & Connie Brett conniemarie@brett-family.net



Crowsnest: the Saltspring Island Sailing Club bi-weekly newsletter



Dear Todd & Connie Brett,

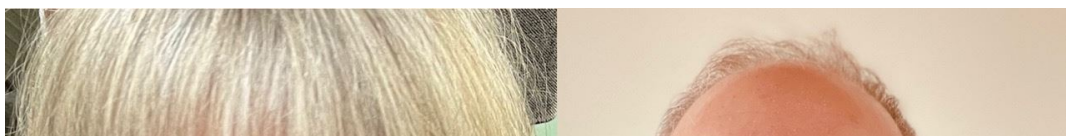
Lots to consider as we transition out of March: the great need for a Staff Captain (could that person be *you?*), insight into the daily wharfing, gear, and educational seminars are just a few of the topics. Read on to learn of these matters and more!

- Todd C. Brett, Editor | crowsnest@saltspringsailing.ca

Announcements in Brief

- Chris Small Seminar March 30
- Updated Member Resources on Website
- Several Reminders
- Past Years' Stock Round Salt Spring Clothing Sale
- Catch-Up Pub Night April 14
- Broughton Archipelago Cruise Planned
- Commodore's Message
- Sailing School Survey Highlights Successes!
- My Two Cents (submitted by Wendy Vine, with permission of the Commodores)

Welcome New Members!





Dana Young and Jack Speirs
August 2022



Steve and Melinda Broughton
March 2023

Events

COFFEE IN THE NOOK: CLUBHOUSE FUTURE PLANS MARCH 25 @ 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Calendar	Join the Commodore and LTP Chair Pete McGovern for discussion about the future options/renewal for our clubhouse. Coffee and cookies provided. 11:00 am start. See post on homepage https://www.saltspringsailing.ca/coffee-in-the-nook-returns-for-feb-and-march/ for more details.
PRESENTATION: BOAT SURVEYS AND A HAIDA GWAIL SALVAGE STORY MARCH 30 @ 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Calendar	Join club member Chris Small of Chris Small Marine Surveyors Ltd. for an interesting presentation between 7 and 8:30 pm in the Clubhouse. See post on homepage for all details and how to register for this "two-for-one, dual topic, in-person" event: https://www.saltspringsailing.ca/chris-small-seminar-surveys-and-salvage-in-haida-gwaii/
COMMUNICATIONS SURVEY CLOSING APRIL 6 Calendar	Today is the last day for filling in the Communications Survey. The link can be found in the March 20 and April 3 Crowsnest and in recent email blasts. We thank you for your participation.

Official Club Calendars

- Events:
<https://www.saltspringsailing.ca/events/category/public/month/>
- Racing:
<https://www.saltspringsailing.ca/club-racing/#RaceCalendar>
- Club House:
<https://www.saltspringsailing.ca/calendar-events/clubhouse-booking-calendar/>

Official Club Photo Albums

- Saltspring Sailing Flickr
Account: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/saltspringsailing/collections>

Official Club Portals

- Club Home Page:
<https://www.saltspringsailing.ca>
- The Elephant:
<https://www.saltspringsailing.ca/theelephant/>

- Gear Shop:
<https://www.saltspringsailing.ca/gear-shop/>
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Notes from the Wharfinger

Daily wharfinger duty

I have always welcomed spring equinox, the time of year when daylight hours begin to outweigh those of darkness, when the sun returns to the northern hemisphere and shines with an intensity that hints of the coming summer. Just as the role of wharfinger has encouraged me to look at our marina through different eyes, it has nudged my anticipation of summer in the direction of looking ahead at the daily wharfinger program. Here are a few of my thoughts.

As club volunteer jobs go, wharfinger duty is arguably the plum. You get to come down to the club, look over its general state, spend time on your boat or on the docks chatting with fellow members and, most importantly, greet reciprocal visitors and make them welcome. Do this four times in the summer and you've already met your 20-hour volunteer commitment! It almost feels like a scam.

Over the years I've taken advantage of this scam enough to understand that the whole program rests on how we answer two key questions: who gets to be wharfinger for a day, and how does that lucky person know where to put visiting boats?

Until recently both questions were answered with a dry erase marker in the gatehouse. On a stylized calendar you put your name next to a date, and the gig is yours. On the appointed rounds of your day, you check the other poster on which members have written in their vacated slip number and expected date of return.

My predecessor, Doug Manton, initiated a system aimed at replacing the pen-and-ink signup with an online calendar. Signup is now convenient and possible remotely, although a caveat persists: if circumstances change and you can't be available on the day you signed up for, it's your responsibility to find a replacement. I'd like to include a way to make that quest easier, possibly by including a space on the calendar to sign up as a standby for specified days. If finding a replacement were less burdensome, members may feel less reluctant to sign up in the first place.

The question of which slips are available to be assigned to visitors is still dependent on members signing out when they leave. They may forget to do so, or if their return date is uncertain, they may indicate the earliest date possible. Full disclosure, I've been guilty on both counts. The consequence in either case is an empty slip that's not available to visitors. I'd like to find a way to put this procedure online

as well; with the magic of cellular data and wifi, there's no reason why a forgotten signout can't be added, or a return date amended enroute.

These ideas take some time and technical support, and they may not be realized in time for summer, but it's the direction in which I'd like to go. Meanwhile the system we have has been working adequately, and the most important thing is to accommodate reciprocal visitors and to welcome them warmly to our jewel of a club.

In the next Crowsnest: a tour of wharfing duty

- Bo Curtis, Wharfing | wharfing@saltspringsailing.ca

Announcements in Detail

Chris Small Seminar March 30

The presentation about surveying and salvage on March 30 is now full. Chris will perhaps do a second presentation if there is sufficient interest, so a waiting list is being kept (email courses@saltspringsailing.ca). Details on the evening here: <https://www.saltspringsailing.ca/chris-small-seminar-surveys-and-salvage-in-haida-gwaii/>

- Wendy Vine, Communications Coordinator | communications@saltspringsailing.ca

Updated Member Resources on Website

Login to our website to see the 2022 Reviewed Financial Statements, the results of the recent seminar survey, and now the Crowsnest Archives (a new feature of archived editions from 2019 onward.)

- Wendy Vine, Communications Coordinator | communications@saltspringsailing.ca

Several Reminders

The last Coffee in the Nook session on the Long Term Plan for Clubhouse renewal is on March 25. Plan to attend if you haven't already been to a session. Info here: <https://www.saltspringsailing.ca/coffee-in-the-nook-returns-for-feb-and-march/>

The Communications Survey is open until April 6, so please give us your opinions here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2W2NSZG>

Members are again reminded to pick up yearbooks and membership cards from the Clubhouse foyer.

...and from the Commodore's report.

- Wendy Vine, Communications Coordinator |
communications@saltspringsailing.ca

Past Years' Stock Round Salt Spring Clothing Sale

This clothing sale continues in a self-serve mode. Details here:
<https://www.saltspringsailing.ca/past-years-round-saltspring-clothing-sale-continues/>

- Wendy Vine, Communications Coordinator |
communications@saltspringsailing.ca

Catch-Up Pub Night April 14

Join the Laidlaws and Brouwers as they host our first pub night of the year: <https://www.saltspringsailing.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/catch-up-pub-poster.pdf>

- Wendy Vine, Communications Coordinator |
communications@saltspringsailing.ca

Broughton Archipelago Cruise Planned

Save the date for this late June cruise:
<https://www.saltspringsailing.ca/broughton-archipelago-cruise-late-june/>

- Wendy Vine, Communications Coordinator |
communications@saltspringsailing.ca

Commodore's Message

Commodore Roy has a mid-year message for us all:
<https://www.saltspringsailing.ca/mid-year-update-from-the-commodore/>

- Wendy Vine, Communications Coordinator |
communications@saltspringsailing.ca

Sailing School Survey Highlights Successes!

New sailing school communications coordinator Tash Kilpatrick has put together the results of a 2022 survey of sailing school participants. To read it, click here: <https://www.saltspringsailing.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/sailing-school-2022-survey-article.pdf>

- Wendy Vine, Communications Coordinator |

communications@saltspringsailing.ca

My Two Cents (submitted by Wendy Vine, with permission of the Commodores)

Our Club still needs a Staff Captain. This came up at the last Coffee in the Nook session, when we were talking about the future of the Clubhouse et al. In case members don't quite understand the hole this has created in the fabric of our Club, I ask you to think about not having any social events this year— no pub nights (unless more people step up to organize one on their own, like the Brouwers and Laidlaws are doing on April 14), no BBQs, no themed potlucks, no Meet & Greet, no Commodore's banquet, work parties with only minimal food, Opening Day and New Year's without luncheons... Think about new people joining and not having good chances to meet anyone. Social events are crucial. Without them, we have few chances to build up our community again after three full years of longtime (many heavily contributing) members resigning, new members joining, and a pandemic putting a lid on it all. We become just a marina. Nobody wants that.

The Staff Captain is a really important Club leader and Board member—bringing us together and enlivening the vital social side of the club.

Putting on social events at the Club has always been a team effort and whoever takes on this role doesn't have to do it alone. But we do need a leader. There will be a good team of experienced people to support and work along with someone taking on the leadership position. There are many past Staff Captains who will be pleased to offer advice and could possibly be involved with helping to create a new model for putting on events. There is a superb reference manual which lays out precisely how to do the job. There are lots of opportunities to massage the job and perhaps even make it work in a different way, using a different model if desired. We just need someone to take it on and re-energize the team. Admittedly, this isn't a job for a new member; it's a good chance for someone who has belonged to the Club for a few years to step in and make a huge difference.

If this sounds like something you could consider, please talk to Past Commodore Chris Cheeseman.

- Wendy Vine, Communications Coordinator |
communications@saltspringsailing.ca
