



S.A.L.T.S.

SAIL AND LIFE TRAINING SOCIETY

WINTER 2010



TRAINING, BY THE SEA, FOR LIFE

SAIL AND LIFE TRAINING SOCIETY  
saltings

SALTINGS, noun.  
Low lying lands occasionally covered by the sea.

## The Secret of Happiness

I heard the story recently of a successful businessman who vacationed in Mexico. While near the ocean, he saw a fisherman return to shore in a small rowboat with a catch of three fish.

"How long were you out fishing?" asked the businessmen. "A few hours" came the reply. "What will you do for the rest of the day?" asked the businessman. The fisherman explained that he would go home, feed his family, play with his kids, take siesta with his wife, and spend time with his friends. The businessman suggested a different plan:

*"Why don't you go back out to sea, catch more fish, and bring the extra fish to market? With the money you earn, you can buy fish from others and sell them, keeping the profit. You could even export fish to the USA, though if you really want to expand your business, you should move to a financial centre like New York."*

"Why would I want to do all that?" asked the fisherman. The businessman replied, "With all the money you make, you could retire young and rich." The fisherman was confused and asked, "But what would I do if I retire?" "That's easy" was the businessman's reply. "You could live somewhere warm and close to the ocean, play with your kids, spend time with your wife, visit your friends..."

How easy it is to get caught up in the thinking that more money or more stuff will lead to happiness. This is, after all, the marketing

message we are constantly bombarded with, and one of the great lies of our Western culture (though I will hasten to add the disclaimer that poverty doesn't lead to happiness either!) We hope that this past Christmas, you had a chance to experience the true happiness that comes from being part of a loving community with God, family, and friends!

This story also resonated with us because 2009 was a very tough financial year for SALT.S. We were reminded this past year that while financial health matters a great deal, financial wealth is

not a prerequisite to a meaningful existence. We had a fabulous and effective year of positive impact on young people despite the financial challenges. Thank you to all of you who supported us as volunteers, donors, and by pointing young people toward our programs! It continues to

have a very deep impact on young people to bring them out of the overly busy lives they lead, and invite them to spend time at sea, reflect on life, and focus on the relationships that matter most.



Loren Hagerty,  
Executive Director

## Annual General Meeting: Thursday, Feb. 25, 2010

Our annual meeting of SALTS members will take place from 7:00 to 7:45 pm at the David Lam auditorium (MacLaurin building) at UVIC. The short meeting will be followed by a video presentation (see details later in this newsletter). If you are a SALTS member and are unable to attend our AGM, please complete the enclosed proxy form and mail it to our office. This helps ensure we have enough votes to conduct our meeting. Audited financial statements will be posted at [www.salts.ca](http://www.salts.ca) by February 15, 2010 (click "Latest News"). Special thanks to Bob Utsurogi, who completed his service on our Board of Directors in November 2010. That month we welcomed former SALTS crew-member Cathie Makaroff to the SALTS Board of Directors as Bob's replacement.

### Things Worth Talking About

SALTS Watch Officers are going through intensive preparations in January and February to lead meaningful and engaging discussions with their watches during the 2010 season about some of the following topics:

- Healthy Self-Identity
- Genuine Community
- Faith and Truth
- Loving One Another
- Simplicity
- Grace and Forgiveness
- Pain and Suffering
- Positive Role Models

*Sail training with SALTS helps young people develop physically, spiritually, mentally, and relationally.*

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## On the Docks

Christmas has passed and the tide has gently turned to flood toward the coming sailing season. We have been blessed in the shipyard this winter with many hands making for lighter work. The most obvious of projects around the yard has been the overhaul of the *Pacific Swift's* rig. Both masts, along with the jibboom and bowsprit, have been removed and any repairs or improvements carried out. The main mast was stepped prior to Christmas and the fore is scheduled to be upright by the end of January. Patrick Sharman and bosun Steve Barbour have toiled through the winter and are now bolstered by the addition of crew members Matt LeMay and Niki Ames. Aboard the *Pacific Grace* Tristan Hedley and Sam Vaale have been working on a programme that will see all the ship's systems surveyed or upgraded as well as refinishing the interior in all the compartments. On both ships and around the yard there have been many dedicated volunteers, both regular and occasional, that have provided hours of welcome help towards the many ongoing projects. Also of note, mate Sarah Brizan has been working on many resources for the crew to improve the shipboard programme. Thanks to all for the encouragement and support as we prepare once again to fill the ships with life, welcoming the first trainees back aboard at the beginning of March.

*Captain John Andrachuk*

### Offshore Video Documentary Premiere: Thursday, Feb. 25, 2010

Please join us Thursday, Feb. 25, 2010 at 8 pm (following our AGM at 7 pm) at the David Lam auditorium (MacLaurin building) at UVIC. We will provide the public and our members an opportunity to view the premiere showing of the video documentary of our 2007-08 offshore voyage, *Pacific Odyssey*. Some video clips have been played in the past, but this is the first time we are sharing our completed video documentary, professionally edited at a studio in Vancouver. Given the high production cost, we are offering the video premiere by donation and suggesting a minimum donation of \$10 per person (but if you cannot afford that, please come anyway)!

### Spring Break Sailing: March 10-12, 2010

A three-day sailing is being offered aboard *Pacific Grace* during spring break for ages 13-25. The cost is only \$372 per person! Online registration is on now at [www.salts.ca](http://www.salts.ca).

### Day Sails: June 11, June 18 or September 5, 2010

Join us for a Day Sail this year! People of all ages are welcome. Details are at [www.salts.ca/daysail](http://www.salts.ca/daysail). Online registration links will be added to that web page on Monday, February 15 at 9 am. There is no cost for SALTS members to attend one Day Sail per year. Non-members pay \$35/person or \$70/family and also receive a one-year SALTS membership included in that price—so bring a friend! For safety reasons, there are some basic requirements related to physical fitness and mobility described on the website.

### Ship's Crews for 2010

This year we welcome one new crew-member, Eryn Derksen!

#### *Pacific Swift*

Master: **John Andrachuk**

First Mate: **Matt Lemay/  
Jordan Campbell**

Bosun: **Steve Barbour**

Watch Officer: **Niki Ames**

Cook: **Amanda Kraay**

#### *Pacific Grace*

Master: **Tony Anderson**

First Mate: **Sarah Brizan**

Bosun: **Tristan Hedley**

Watch Officer: **Sam Vaale**

Cook: **Eryn Derksen**

# Message in a Bottle

In November 2009, we received the following email:

*"G'day, My name is Rory Kelliher and I am writing to let you know that I found a message in a bottle from one of your voyages. Being a truly one in a million event I thought I would pass it on to you. I was part of an Australian Army patrol on a deserted island off Far North Australian coast when we stumbled across it after a large storm hit. The message was from an Adam Johnston of Calgary, AB, Canada. The message started its trip in between the Marquisan Islands and the Tuamota's Islands. I have sent an email today to Adam so hopefully I can get a few more details of his trip." -Rory*

The bottle was released around August 2007 by a SALTS trainee during our last offshore voyage. It was found in November 2009, having traveled about 4300 nautical miles across the South Pacific Ocean!

*(below) Sailing off Amphitrite Point near Ucluelet, Summer Trip 5, August 2009*



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David Eggert, Operations Manager (left) signals a crane operator who lowers the Swift's main mast back in place.

## SALTS Supports Development Plans of Ralmax

As most of you will know, back in 2005 SALTS received word that the Ralmax Group of Companies is seeking to gain a long-term lease for the site that SALTS has leased from the City of Victoria since the late 1980s. Since that time, SALTS has been involved in public relations and negotiations to protect our interests on the site. The process has taken several years as the City of Victoria conducted studies of the site to look at geo-technical and environmental issues, and then created guidelines for the redesign of the site. Until recently, we were pressing the City officials to allow us to remain tenants of the City of Victoria rather than become sub-tenants of Ralmax. We took this position in order to protect the significant lease subsidy we have received from the City in the past.

However, the reasons that we sought to lease directly from the City no longer apply. The City of Victoria is raising our lease rates as of December 2010. Now whether we lease from the City or from Ralmax, we will pay fair market rates but may apply for property tax exemption. Secondly, if we continue to insist on leasing directly from the City, it will significantly limit our site location options because we must be outside of Ralmax' lease area. Thirdly, if we do not lease from Ralmax, we will compete with them for space on the site. If we lease from them, it is to their benefit to give us ample space. After consulting with the City of Victoria, Ralmax, and nine other advisors, SALTS has sent a letter to the City

in support of Ralmax receiving an option to lease the entire South Docks site, provided that the Option to Lease includes a provision that SALTS be accommodated on the site. Ralmax has committed to accommodate our shipyard needs on the site, and the City Council has made it clear that they must do so!

We expect to be in our current building for at least a few more years, but we do not yet know if in the long-term we will remain in our current building or construct a new ship maintenance facility somewhere nearby on this site. There are pros and cons of both options and it will take many months for the site redesign plans to come together. We recently began to vacate the 3000 square foot storage bunker we have leased from the City, and the lease cost increases we will see in December 2010 are largely offset by the savings of doing this. Over the past few years, many of you have written letters of support on our behalf. Thank you! We have seen tangible evidence that those letters took affect. Every time the topic of the South Docks came up before City Council, certain Council Members spoke out in defense of SALTS. Our voices were heard, and it appears that the end results will be very positive. We look forward to knowing more specific site plans in the future and will communicate them when we do. We will also update you about our overall strategic plan at the AGM and in the spring 2010 edition of *Saltings*.

## Trainees Gave Rave Reviews of 2009 Season

A survey of 376 participants from our 2009 program affirmed once again that our programs have a strong personal impact and a high level of satisfaction among trainees:

- 97% were satisfied that the atmosphere on board was positive and uplifting
- 95% said crew-members cared about them personally
- 99% said safety was a high priority on board
- 98% had positive experiences with crew-members
- 99% said crew-members were experts at sailing the ship
- 97% said they gained sailing skills and knowledge
- 78% said they grew spiritually
- 98% grew closer to other trainees
- 97% were challenged to do things they had never done before
- 93% said their confidence grew as a result of the voyage



## Special Thanks to These Boat Donors

**Michael Boldt** for a 28' San Juan sloop

**Tom and Brenda Camus** for a 30' Silverton Express

**Marcel Breau** for a 28' Rhodes Ranger sloop

photography by : Anna Kratofil, Betsy Harmsworth, Loren Hagerty, Miriam Moore, Susie Dancer, and Sarah Brizan.

## Special Thanks to our Volunteers

Siobhan Semadeni, Ken Gibbard, Emma Woodland, Oliver Woodland, Wesley Bowley, Alex Arslanyan, Alec Bayes, Dean Colvin, Philip Bayly, Hardy Davies, Graham Richard, David Blair, Brian Wood, David Barlow, Matt Higgins, Ivor Hughes, Charles Ayer, Don Boyce, Simone Page, Tim Champagne, Chris Gorman, Brandon Mainwaring, Jacob Anderson, Amanda Volk, David Hammond, Andrew Barclay, and Ashley Volk

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## Young Volunteers Drawn to SALTS Shipyard

This winter, far more young people volunteered at the shipyard than we have seen in recent memory. That may be because more of our professional crew-members than ever before worked for some or all of the winter at the shipyard. Where our crew goes, the young people follow! We've been thrilled to be able to extend our mentorship activities beyond the sailing season! Anyone aged 13+ is welcome to come help us prepare our ships for the sailing season, which begins March 8. Shipyard hours are 8:30-5 pm, Monday to Friday. Teens may enjoy this as an "after-school" activity and home-schoolers may find this fits part of their educational needs.

*SALTS wishes to acknowledge the \$2000 grant from the Alistair S. Thomson Fund, received through the Victoria Foundation, which will be used for bursaries.*

Feel free to send questions or feedback about *Saltings* to [info@salts.ca](mailto:info@salts.ca) or call 250-383-6811.



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