
SSTA SPECIAL EDITION

PRESENTING YOUR 2021 SSTA BOARD

Let's Meet Babette Arnoldus, SSTA's New President.



I am pleased to have this opportunity to introduce myself as your new President. For those of you who don't know me, I will attempt to accurately describe myself.

Born and raised in the Netherlands, I left after high school to follow my dreams in Boston, via Vero Beach, Florida, and Marbella in Spain. I ended up on Salt Spring Island which has been my home for 10 years now.

I am a social butterfly by nature and being not only new to the island but new to Canada, I had to start anew in meeting people. I quickly became aware that there were always people playing tennis at Portlock Park, however, I had not played since I was a teenager. I asked around a bit and was introduced to three lovely ladies, and we started playing on a regular basis. Within a few months, we were great friends, active SSTA members, and somewhat better at playing tennis. I have met so many people through the club, it really was the best decision, I made.

I will probably go down in history as SSTA's worst Social Director. As Covid struck, and I managed to be in the position for a whole year without ever having to organize anything. Hopefully, I will get to make up for it in my current position.

When Mafalda and Erica approached me about the President's position, I did not jump at the chance as politics are not really my thing. I am a people person, I like people, and I enjoy getting along with people, probably not the right qualification for the job. However, I am a Taurus, stubborn as a mule, and always right!

I will certainly give it my all. But, when I found out that Bay Hale would stand for V.P., I decided that together we could make this work, and with the fantastic team we have, our vision for the Club will be within our reach! It is crucial all of you are part of this!

As we are approaching the end of the Covid tunnel, and summer is upon us, we will slowly, very slowly, move to resume our pre-Covid Club life. I assume that like me, everybody is looking forward to this. But as a Club, we have done so well, and therefore we just have to be a little more patient. But when it is safe, we will start to make up for it. I am looking forward to meeting all our new members in person, and getting reacquainted with everybody again.

Babette Arnoldus: SSTA.President@shaw.ca

Welcoming SSTA's New Vice President-Bay Hale.....

The 2020 Season was a huge success, and I would like to thank everyone once again for making this past year so enjoyable - in spite of the trying conditions! Last year we were able to remain open, and to provide safe and healthy tennis for our members without a single COVID-related illness or interruption. None of this would have been possible without YOU, our members, observing our safety protocols, quarantining as necessary, and accepting responsibility for your own health, and that of your fellow SSTA members. A genuine thank you.

In the upcoming Board year, I look forward to working with you to make this season even better, as we continue to build upon last year's initiatives and to pursue new ones.

As Vice President, my focus this year will be on succession strategies and planning. We have many volunteers who have given countless hours to SSTA for many, many years. In many cases, elements of how we operate exists within the experience of these individuals, and have been shared through word of mouth rather than in documented processes. The next steps for SSTA include knowledge transfer & management, and ensuring that we document, and can pass on, this information with a focus on transparency, unity, and inclusiveness.



Together, we collectively make SSTA a fabulous Salt Spring community resource! If you would like to volunteer in any capacity with SSTA, please do not hesitate to contact Mary Grove, Volunteer Coordinator at: **marygrove@live.com**

We gratefully welcome your input and time, and, moreover, look forward to seeing you on and off the courts!

As the weeks unfold, we will continue to share information on how we plan to continue to hone and optimize SSTA, and to explain our approach. In particular, we will begin this process of renewal by looking at the role of our Sub-Committees, and how our organizational model can help us run this volunteer-driven club as effectively and efficiently as possible. **Tennis Anyone?**

Bay Hale: SSTA.VicePresident@shaw.ca

Introducing SSTA's New Treasurer—Peter Parker



I'm a "new" Islander who has lived here 6 years, and also a pharmacist who failed 'Retirement 101'.

I was raised in a family of volunteers. Although hard work at times, at the end of the day, it is a rewarding feeling that has been proven to be healthy. Volunteering at SSTA has given me a chance to meet and work closely with the very interesting and talented individuals on your Board.

Peter Parker: SSTA.Treasurer@shaw.ca

Re-Introducing, SSTA's Secretary, David Naphtali.



I was first appointed secretary to SSTA, 6 years ago when April Wright was president. I took over from Ann Page who had done a wonderful job for the Club.

Marnie and I had been coming to the Gulf Islands, to our property on a small island off Galiano, since 1993. When I retired, I took up a new interest in tennis. My first lessons were from Pete and Marjorie on a court on Galiano.

We joined SSTA in the summer of 2013, commuting from our cabin to participate in drop-in tennis at Portlock. In 2015, we decided to move permanently from Vancouver to Salt Spring. Our friends from tennis drop-in made the transition to life on Salt Spring, a dream come true. Ann Page had been particularly generous to our family, so it was a natural to help out when she wanted a replacement on the executive.

It has been my pleasure to work with so many talented people on the board over the past 6 years, and in a small way contribute to the continuing success of the Club. We have an exceptional foundation for tennis in our community and a great future with so many of you.

David Naphtali: SSTA.Secretary@shaw.ca

You've likely gotten all sort of emails and notices- the woman behind all of this is our Communications Director—Chris Marshall

I've been with the SSTA Board for about three years. Coincidentally, about as long as I've been playing tennis. There was no such thing as youth tennis lessons on Salt Spring when I grew up, hence I'm a true adult newbie tennis player. It's been a lot of fun and best of all, such a great sense of community, and camaraderie among the players.

My role on the board is that of Communications. I am the conduit; responsible for proofing, editing, and sending out of Board emails, and posting news, and general information to the website.



As you all know, we switched to a new software program - ClubSpark - this past winter, and are still working a few things out. If you suspect that you are not receiving your tennis emails please first check your junk folder for anything SSTA and let your filter know that it is "not junk". But please also feel free to contact me if you continue to have problems. We'll try to figure it out!

Also, a nudge to check the News are on the Website as most of the significant items are posted there as well. <https://clubspark.ca/saltspringtennis/News>

Happy Spring into Summer and fun times on the courts - both inside and out!

Chris Marshall: SSTA.Communications@shaw.ca

No introduction needed for SSTA's Investor's Representative-Erica Ross.....still, did you know..



Tennis has been important in my life. I've made many friends, played in many places in the world, and even met my husband, Colin, on a tennis court! Being on the SSTA board lets me pass on some of that joy.

After 9 years as SSTA's president, overseeing the agreement with the Golf Club, the SSTA created a permanent home for our island community. The project would not have been possible without years of Club penny-pinching and fund raising, aided by financial help from the Founders/Investors.

The Investors Representative position was created to safeguard the interests of the investors, and will exist until the construction debt is all paid. This voting position is always to be held by an Investor.

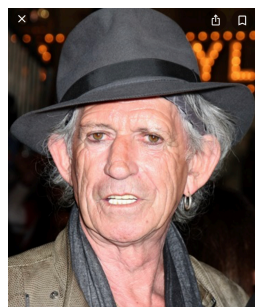
This position also provides historical continuity for the Board.

Erica Ross: SSTA.InvestorsRep@shaw.ca

Blair Carley, SSTA's New Tennis Director...one of the key organizers behind the successful 'So-be-it-Spring Teams Singles Tournament'

We are extremely fortunate to have a really fun club with terrific members, and a glorious indoor facility. I'm happy to be SSTA's Tennis Director because I love to see people playing and enjoying the game, and I'd like to make that happen any way I can.

Blair Carley: SSTA.Tennis Director@shaw.ca



Let's welcome our new Social Director – Loraine Clark

Originally from the Isle of Wight in the UK, Loraine became a proud Canadian more than 30 years ago. She has since lived in Vancouver, Toronto, New York and Vancouver once again, before being happily lured to Salt Spring Island, 4 years ago in 2017. Having returned to tennis after many years, Loraine is finding the learning curve a whole lot steeper than it was when she started playing at the age of 16!

Many of us harken from elsewhere, and we have somehow found our way to the tennis club, and the terrific group of people who also enjoy this sport. In the role of Social Director, and with the assistance of many people who have volunteered, Loraine hopes to plan and initiate social events through the sharing of common interests.

Realistically, our social scene is still on hold for the time being; however, this gives us plenty of time to make plans and have things ready to go, once the Covid guidelines and regulations change, and we all begin to feel comfortable again. There is a lot to look forward to, and we will be in touch as soon as possible with opportunities to get together ,and celebrate the game of tennis, and our gorgeous island home. **Stay tuned!**

Loraine Clark: SSTA.SocialDirector@shaw.ca



Allow me to introduce myself.....as Operations Director...Eduard Andringa

My family, and I moved to Salt Spring Island in 2006. It's a true privilege to call the West Coast our home. I'm a Dutch national and starting playing tennis in boarding school in Baarn.

I've been a member of various tennis clubs in the Netherlands and the Middle East.

I'm looking forward to serving as Operations Director for SSTA.

Should you wish to become a volunteer for operations/maintenance for the Club, please send me an email: SSTA.OperationsDirector@shaw.ca

Blessings- Pour ceux qui naviguent, "For those who sail", Henri Wauquiez.

You may have noticed the new man on the courts, this is a new member of our coaching team –Darran Wrighton....read his philosophies below, so interesting...

"In this first correspondence with members, I'd like to thank all the people, whom I have met so far, for their warm welcome to Salt Spring Island.

My own personal tennis journey has been unique - coming from a small rural countryside town in the UK to living and working in the Pacific Islands via Australia / New Zealand and the USA, to my new home here on Salt Spring Island.

My grandfather was my first coach, and through him, I learned the important principle of teaching tennis as a game for life for all ages and abilities.

The playing of the game of tennis itself is something that unfortunately has seemed to take a backseat in the coaching industry - the taking of tennis lessons and a focus on technique over tactics has given coaches lots of pupils but in recent times, very few actually take the time to play the game of tennis itself.

The backbone of my personal coaching philosophy has always been the core of teaching people to serve, rally and score. Irrespective of their skill set, knowing these basics concepts then allows every participant to learn to play the game of tennis albeit perhaps in a modified environment (smaller court size / modified equipment and differing scoring methods).



If you wish to contact Darran, he can be reached at: momentumtenniscoaching@gmail.com

Thrifty's Smile Card Program Ending!

If you're an SSTA Smile Card holder, this is an important and time-sensitive update. The program as we know it, is **Ending** soon, so let's take advantage of it for the last time!

Please load up your Smile Cards ASAP, and use them a lot **before July 1st** to get the last 5% return for our Club. After that date, they will no longer be active.

Over the last thirteen years, this loyalty shopping program raised approximately \$1500 annually for SSTA projects at no cost to anyone, and without incurring any work for our volunteers. We will miss it.

Post Script: I thought in taking on the coordination of this newsletter that the challenge would be getting submissions. But I have since been enlightened, and found that while it takes a village, they say, to raise a child, there is a village indeed supporting this club. I had no idea. So, a big thank you to the many contributors and to all that have contributed to the club in the past and here's to the future and to all you members that want a word.....

Dianne Hayward, New Newsletter Coordinator.