

# ROCK TALK

New sletter of the London Curling Club

December 2005

## Who will be **CLOSEST TO THE HEART ??**

Sylvia Leuszler challenges **YOU** to take part in the "draw to the button" contest, a STOH event being hosted by curling clubs in southwestern Ontario. There are lots of cash and product prize packages, the ultimate reward being the opportunity to compete in the finals, which will take place during the fifth-end break of the final game of the Scott Tournament of Hearts at the John Labatt Centre, where the "Closest to the Heart" Champion will be crowned.

Get involved! You'll find all the information you'll need on page 5 of this issue.

*Sylvia Leuszler is Coordinator of the Closest to the Heart STOH event. At right, she demonstrates her "state of the art" (patent pending!) measuring device.*



## Meet Guy Hemmings and Jenn Hanna at LCC's

### TWO DATES TO CHOOSE FROM:

Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>  
at 7 o'clock ... enjoy a  
Presentation, On-Ice Clinic  
and Snacks  
Cost \$10

**OR**

Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>  
11:30 am to 1:30 pm ... come  
for Lunch and a Presentation  
Cost \$15



Tickets  
available  
at the bar

Watch for this  
symbol ...the  
key to great  
gift ideas for  
the curlers on  
your shopping list!



*The 2005  
Curl for the Cure  
... another  
phenomenal  
success!*

page 8

Introducing  
Pat Steele,  
SCOTT TOURNAMENT  
OF HEARTS  
Director of Banquets  
and Receptions

page 10

**Tw**as the night before  
Christmas and all through the  
"house",  
**not a creature was stirring ...**

You'll find LCC's holiday  
schedule and notices  
about upcoming special  
events on page 12



# OCA REPORT

## NEW OCA PARTNER

The OCA is pleased to welcome Avis to its list of quality partners. They encourage you to consider using Avis for your next vehicle rental worldwide. Please visit [Avis](http://www.avis.com) and use the OCA Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD) number C360300 to get the lowest rate available. Check the OCA Website for more... [www.curlontario.com](http://www.curlontario.com)



There were no entries for the Senior Women's and Tournament of Hearts events from our club.



Entry forms for the Challenge and Master Women Competitions have been posted.



Entry forms for the Intermediate Women, Trophy Event and Women's Tankard will be posted on December 9th.

Sy Mia Leuszler, Women's OCA Rep

During the Month of November LCC had one entry in the Senior Men Tournament Zone Playdowns at the Glencoe & District Curling Club. The team consisted of Skip Jack McLaren, Mike Sheppard, Cam Murray and Derek Shadlock. All the best in the play downs! Go all the way!

Not teams signed up for the Kia Motors Cup Zone Playdowns at the Ridgetown Golf & Curling Club to be held December 9 - 11.

I have posted the entry forms for the next two tournaments of present importance on the men's locker room bulletin board. They are:

The Holiday Inn Trenton Challenge (minimum 19 years of age) - Zone Playdowns will be at the Sarnia Golf & Curling Club January 6 - 9, 2006.

The Tim Hortons Master Men (minimum 60 years of age each player) - Zone Playdowns will be at the Chatham Granite Club January 15 - 16, 2006.

If you choose to enter online, please make sure you meet the deadlines as indicated on the club entry forms in the men's locker room. On-line closing dates are one week prior to the zone closing dates

John Rudell, Men's OCA Rep



## SPECIAL OFFER !!

JOIN IN JANUARY AND CURL IN ALL LEAGUES UNTIL END OF MARCH 2006 FOR ONLY

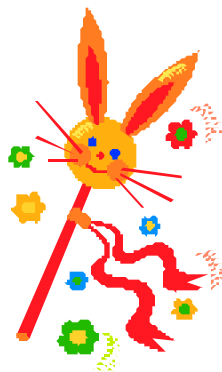
# \$75

IF YOU CHOOSE TO JOIN IN SEPTEMBER 2006, \$50 WILL BE REDUCED FROM YOUR 2006-2007 FULL MEMBERSHIP FEE

THIS IS A ONE-TIME ONLY OFFER FOR NEW MEMBERS. NEW MEMBERSHIPS WILL BE HONOURED ONLY IN THE SAME YEAR.

## WELCOME ANNE!!

Manager Ken Walmsley is pleased to announce that Anne LePage has joined the LCC staff as our new Housekeeper. Anne has already been nicknamed the "energizer bunny" - a compliment from her fellow staff members - and no doubt an indication that she'll be keeping the club looking it's best for the members!



### LONDON CURLING CLUB

377 Lyle Street  
London, Ontario N5W 3R5  
Telephone (519) 432-3882  
E-mail [londoncurling@execulink.com](mailto:londoncurling@execulink.com)  
Website [www.curling.com/london](http://www.curling.com/london)

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Mike Bancroft, Marc Claveau, Bob Davis, Tom Fejes, Guiti Massoumi, John Rudell, Marg Sima

### CLUB STAFF

Club Manager	Ken Walmsley
Office Manager	Barb Colboun
Head Ice Technician	Kevin Breivik
Ice Assistants	Dan Currie Ed Jermyn Dan Myers
Bar Coordinator	John Spelman
Bar Staff	Les Sonier Cassandra Watson
Housekeeper	Anne LePage
CLUB PRO	Andrea Child

WEBSITE Eric Duggan

ROCK TALK Wink DuBrule  
Telephone (519) 434-4410  
Email [rocktalkcc@yahoo.ca](mailto:rocktalkcc@yahoo.ca)  
Issue Deadlines:  
January (January 6)  
February (February 10)  
March (March 10)



## A WORD FROM THE PRO SHOPPE

**Time is running out** to guarantee delivery before Christmas on ex-stock items from our fine line of clothing. **Embroidered items** requiring pre-Christmas delivery must be ordered by December the 9th. at the latest. So why not consider a Unisex Select Jacket, a ladies Fleece Vest, an embroidered Golf Shirt, or an embroidered turtleneck, in both ladies and men's sizes? These are just a few of the many available items.

Still thinking of a new pair of **curling shoes**? Why not a pair of the Allegro, Eagle or Edge Shoes, or one of the various weight distribution shoes – all available through your Pro Shoppe.

We also have a large inventory of brooms, stop watches, delivery aids, gloves and mitts and curling pants. Still not sure? How about a **gift certificate**? Available from \$10 and up.

So this Christmas, please consider a purchase from **your London Curling Club Pro Shoppe**.

*And remember, our prices include taxes.*



**From the Staff & all the Support Volunteers ...**

**“Seasons Greetings for a happy and safe holiday season to all LCC curlers and their families.”**

**It is our pleasure to help make the LCC a fun place to be!**



### CLUB STANDINGS

#### MIXED LEAGUE

The following are the flight winners of the first draw:

- Flight 1 --- Ken Walmsley Team
- Flight 2 --- Marc Claveau Team
- Flight 3 --- Barry McCarthy Team
- Flight 4 --- Brent DuPlessis Team
- Flight 5 --- Doreen Stacey Team
- Flight 6 --- Chris Thompson Team

#### THE MILLER LEAGUE

The following teams are “moving up”:

- To A flight -- Jim Lone & Mike Sheppard
- To B flight -- Dave Weber & Mike Bancroft
- To C flight -- Richard Greenfield & John Rudell
- To D flight -- Garth Kidd & Dave Rush

# The Poinsettia Project

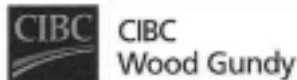
The “Elves” (otherwise known as Marlene Benny, Marianne LaRose, Pat Bell and Jean Walmsley from the Daytime Women’s Division) have been very busy over the last few weeks. They tell us that poinsettia sales are up this year to a whopping sum of \$3,295.

A final report will be published in the January issue of Rock Talk.

Thanks to all Club members who placed orders, with special congratulations to Harry Sirna, who sold 59 plants, and Joanne Laws with 21. (They must have lots of friends!)

**The poinsettias will be delivered to the Club and ready for pickup on Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> between 8:00 am and 9:00 pm.**

Marlene Benny, Convenor



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**REVIEW from the CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

by Dave Shaw

**“WE’VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY!”**

On May 17<sup>th</sup> 2000 a newly appointed committee of the Board of Directors met for the first time to discuss the problems concerning the building, the condition of the ice, and the costs of undertaking any major renovations or repairs to the 75- year-old building at 377 Lyle Street. The committee, now known as the Capital Improvement Committee (CIC) but then without a name or indeed a clear mandate, consisted of Bill Easton, Wirt DuBrule and Bary Wade (who brought construction and refrigeration expertise), Sharon Sivak, Jack Phillips and Ron Fliss (who understood costs and had a long history with the LCC) and Dave Shaw (who was liaison to the Board).

The CIC met regularly to decide first, whether the building was structurally sound, and then once that was answered positively, to decide what action to take to deal with the problems as they gradually became clear. The committee decided early on that its first task was to improve the curling facility – to provide outstanding curling ice at the Lyle Street facility – and that goal remains to this day.

The first tasks recommended to the Board in August 2000 and approved were relatively modest. Amounts are rounded to the nearest thousand.

Move the expansion tank	\$ 1,000
Insulate the south wall of the building	\$ 17,000
Replace the overhead door – north wall	\$ 3,000

Then the expenditure requests to the Board required much greater dollar commitments. The first of these was undertaken in August 2002 :

Replace the piping under the sand base and the fluids that go through these pipes to make ice – over six miles of piping	\$ 88,000
---	-----------

And then just when the committee thought that it had some time before the next major expenditure program, we discovered that the ice-making equipment, compressor, chiller and condenser were operating past their expected lives, were in danger of a breakdown that would could cause the club to shut down while finding parts and perhaps lose a whole curling season, were environmentally unfriendly and were a source of personal danger to our ice-making team. At first the CIC thought that we had to just replace what was there, but then we discovered that the replacement equipment had to be housed in a separate building because building laws had changed over the years and compressors could not be located where the old one had operated for many years in the basement of the LCC. In April 2002, the CIC presented a major capital expenditure program to the Board who approved it in principle and recommended it to the Annual Meeting in June. The Annual Meeting approved it unanimously and we have been implementing it ever since. Here is what was involved:

New ice-making equipment – compressor, chiller and condenser	\$133,000
New building to house the new equipment	\$134,000

For a club with total income in 2002 of approximately \$215 thousand and an operating loss of \$22 thousand that was a huge undertaking. But the job was not yet complete. In April 2005, upon the recommendation of the CIC, the Board approved a plan to bring in a consultant, N A Engineering, to recommend where do we go from here. Now we needed outside expertise for the final stages of the program. The consultant recommended:

Insulate the rest of the building – north and west walls
Install heaters and maintain a constant temperature in the arena (8 degrees Celsius)
Dehumidify according to the needs of the new system

In August 2005 the CIC recommended to the Board that it implement the recommendations of the consultant. The Board agreed to and undertook the following:

Insulate the north wall	\$ 26,000
-------------------------	-----------

and to plan for the next phases as recommended by the consultant.

So, to date, the CIC has recommended and the Board has implemented a total package of expenditures of \$402,000 – an amount thought impossible just five years ago. And what is left of the program to provide outstanding curling ice? Well the following at estimated costs:

Insulate the west wall	\$ 15,000
Install heaters	\$ 13,000
Acquire a new dehumidifier	\$ <u>20,000</u>
Total	\$ <u>48,000</u>

So, we are almost there and the last stage should show a further significant improvement in the quality of the ice and the comfort of curling at the LCC.

The CIC original membership has remained intact over the five years and added Mike Bancroft as its Board liaison member and is considering its next undertaking as the project to improve the quality of the curling ice winds down. Stay tuned!

# COVER STORY

By the time you read this article some of the Women, Senior & Miller Men and Mixed will have participated in this contest but competitions are scheduled up to December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The Closest to the Heart Contest is a draw-to-the-button competition hosted by curling clubs in South Western Ontario. For just \$2, you will have a shot at the button, with all proceeds going to our club. For each club entered, 2 winners will be selected, and will qualify to go to Regionals, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at the St. Thomas Curling Club. The names of these two finalists will be submitted to the 2006 Heartfest Committee by January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006

From there, 8 semi-finalists will qualify to compete at the John Labatt Centre where a playoff during the fifth end break of the Semi-Final game of the Scott Tournament of Hearts, will determine 4 finalists. These final 4 will move on to play-off during the fifth end break of the Championship Final of the STOH, where the Closest to the Heart Champion will be crowned!



**Winners will receive**

- 1st place - \$550
- 2nd place - \$300
- 3rd place - \$150

*Plus additional product and prize packages !!*

All entrants to the Closest to the Heart contest will have the option of having their names entered in a draw to be among 64 participants in the FREE **Pro-Am Bonspiel**. The Pro-Am Bonspiel will be held March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at the London Curling Club with the championship final following at the JLC.

### Who Can Participate and How the Competition Works?

- ♥ Men, Women, Juniors, Little Rockers...all ages, open to all leagues.
- ♥ Use of delivery stick is permitted.
- ♥ Sweeping is not allowed.
- ♥ No one shall hold a broom in the head, you must take your own ice.
- ♥ The 2 curlers with the closest measurements from the face of the rock to the pin will determine the **finalists**.
- ♥ In the event that multiple competitors have rocks that cover the pin, the stones will be considered **'tied'** and these participants will throw again.

I appreciate the interest and support of the league conveners in the scheduling of this contest. We will keep you informed as the contest proceeds.

Sylvia Leuszler, Coordinator



## TICKETS TO THE "HEARTS" ...

What a great Christmas gift idea! "Mini Packs" of tickets for opening weekend, mid-week and closing weekend are now available. Individual draw tickets will be available in January. For tickets, call toll free 1-866-488-1012. For information, visit the website at [www.hearts2006.curling.ca](http://www.hearts2006.curling.ca). Or call the STOH office in London at 645-2875.





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## WOMEN'S PAGE: News,News,News!

by Sheila Novlan

### Fund Raiser – Theatre Night

Pat Bell, Reporter

The second fund raising event of the Daytime Women's Section garnished \$160 for LCC's Capital Fund. The Theatre night *Mail Order Annie* was a production of London Community Players and is a joint fund raising effort with the Palace Theatre and community groups, each receiving \$5 per ticket.

The next Theatre Night is March 15, 2006. *Shadowlands* by William Nicholson is "A tale of C.S. Lewis, celebrated author of the Narnia series of children's fantasies, and the single romance of his life."

Think Gift Giving ... Think Theatre! Just \$10. Information signs are up, or call Pat Bell at 425-9920.



### Young & Co. Event

Donna Wakefield, Convener

For the 7th year the event attracted some 40 curlers who played six games over the October 13 to November 17 period. Mr. Bill Young presented prizes to the winning team of Sharon Sivak, Karen Shearer, Donna Wakefield & Bev McDonald.

Donna thanks her co-convenor Karen Lowy for her colourful luncheon centre pieces, as well as Kay Wicks and Hennie Melles for serving the luncheon.

See you all next year at the Young's.

### Early Bird Bonspiel

Linda Round, Convenor

On Monday, November 21, another successful Early Bird Bonspiel was held at the LCC consisting of 8 out-of-town rinks and 4 in club rinks. It was an exciting day of excellent curling, good food and fellowship. The Alymer rink skipped by Christa Brouwer, Brenda Haayema, Judy Van Ymeren and Marj Steenbergen were the first place recipients.

The Early Bird Bonspiel is now sponsored by "The Five Jeanettes". The newest Jeanette, little five month old Grace Jeanette Harris was present with her mother, Jennifer and dad Jon for the festivities, along with Aunt Joyce Jeanette Hetherington.

Linda thanks her co-convenors, Sharon Sivak, Fay Weiler, Lynda Reesor, Sheila Novlan, Jean Glendinning, and Marg Fliss for all their help in making the day a great success.

### Friendship Day Bonspiel

Jean Walmsley, Convenor & Mary Shorten, Co-Convenor

The November 24 snowstorm may have delayed the event a little, but it didn't dampen the spirits of the forty curlers who arrived ready for a fun day! Twenty were guests, eight brand new to the game, and we're proud to say that two signed up on the spot to join our Club. The attraction must have been the instructions given by Andrea Child (many thanks) before the festivities or perhaps the splendid lunch prepared by Jean & Mary.

For their super draw prizes, a very, very big thank you to Lisa Porter & Bruce Cooper.

## UP AND COMING

### Christmas Party

Marlene Berry & Team, Convenors

This is the gala event on the L.C.C. Women's Daytime Section calendar.

The sign up sheet is posted for the December 14 event.

Don't miss this one

... it's a goodie!



### Bernie's Event

Joan Bidnosti, Convenor



The next six-week event, played January 3 to February 7, will be "The Bernie's". Sign up sheets are up until December 6

### L.C.C. Women's Skins Games

Linda Karl, Convenor

Start your New Year off on a great note with the Ladies Skins on Wednesday, January 4th (AM only).

Sign up sheet to be posted January 1 (team or individual).

Entry fee \$5.00 PP with all monies going to the prize pot!



## Senior Men's Report

As we complete a very busy November, our senior curlers are storing their golf clubs and are returning to the winter sport that we love. Some days are busier than others, with Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays usually the more popular days of the week for curling.

November really is the start of the **bonspiel season**, both at our London Club and at the other clubs in the Southwestern Ontario district. We have already hosted a Tier 70 bonspiel on Wednesday, November 2nd, ably convened by Bob Hyatt. On Tuesday, November 8th, we hosted the St. Thomas Curling Club for the first leg of the Medcalf Trophy. London edged the visiting team 71 to 64, due to one of our teams scoring a 7-ender. The second leg will be played at St. Thomas sometime in February of 2006. The club totalling the highest score of both meetings will retain the Medcalf Trophy. Also, in that vein, the London Club visited the Highland Club on Tuesday, November 2nd for the first leg of the Highland Friendly (luckily, it was one of our ice maintenance days). Highland was unusually friendly, as London came away with a 70 to 67 lead to take with us when we host Highland sometime in February. Keep up the good work, every one, as last year we lost both the Highland Friendly **and** the Medcalf.



By the time you read this, the **Sifton Classic** Committee will have played host to this major senior bonspiel which is also known as the Tier 60. This is a very prized bonspiel for seniors around the Southwestern Ontario district and is quickly filled by teams that return on a yearly basis. Of course a spiel of this nature needs many volunteers to operate it smoothly and we are blessed to have an ample supply of willing members to assist. The 32-team spiel is chaired by Don Dudley, assisted by Drawmaster Don McKay. The December issue of Rock Talk was heading for the printers as this prestigious event was winding up on November 30th. Watch for a full report in the January issue.

One of our senior members has suffered a stroke this past month. We understand that **Dennis Sillett** will have to undergo an operation very shortly. Best of luck from all of us. We look forward to having you join us again on the ice in the very near future.

The senior lunch will be held on Monday, December 19th – with curling the morning followed by the **Christmas lunch**. It is hoped that we can have a large attendance for this event.

From all us Senior curlers, the very best for the upcoming holiday season. Wishing everyone good health, good curling and good fortune for 2006.

**Dick Kilbourne**  
Senior Men's President

## THE BLACK BOOK OF CURLING

The LCC office has received an e-mail message from "CurlingZone.com" [webmaster@curlingzone.com](mailto:webmaster@curlingzone.com) advertising a new curling publication. "The Black Book of Curling" promotes itself as "the first book of its kind in the sport", a "comprehensive records guide of all major championships that we curl in, focusing on both the men's and women's games: including provincial, national, world records, all World Curling Tour, Women's Curling Tour, and other specialty events".



The book is available for the low cost of \$14.95 from CurlingZone's website, found at [www.blackbookofcurling.com](http://www.blackbookofcurling.com), or can be purchased by calling 519-878-1959. You might want to check out the CurlingZone website before you order.

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1244 Commissioners Rd. W.	(519) 473-7431	Fax: (519) 473-7431

9<sup>th</sup> Annual

# *Curl for the Cure*

## Women's Charity Bonspiel

### Pink was the colour and fundraising was the theme

at the 9th Annual Curl for the Cure Women's Charity Bonspiel held on Saturday, November 19th. 22 teams from the Highland, London, Ilderton, St. Mary's, St. Thomas and Woodstock Curling Clubs were piped onto the ice by Alex Adams, Strathroy Legion Pipe Band and led by Mascot Scottie's Little Softie from the Scott Tournament of Hearts. It was a tremendously successful event, raising a total of \$30,348, which greatly exceeded our highest

expectations (\$2,640 Registration, \$19,513 Participant Pledges, \$3,100 Pledges from the Kellogg's Bonspiel, \$350 Corporate Donation from Kellogg's, \$3,502

Silent Auction, \$1,125 Raffle, \$95 Ham Raffle and \$23 Miscellaneous Sales. This increases the fundraising total to \$217,500.14 since Curl for the Cure was introduced to the London Curling Club in 1997. Congratulations to Laura Rozon, Shirley Telford (Woodstock), Bonny Shawyer, Caroline Pavlin, Sheila Dempster and Bev McDonald who raised \$1,175, \$1,100, \$670, \$628, \$600 and \$600 in pledges, respectively.

\$29,223 was donated to Rethink Breast Cancer to support research at the London Regional Cancer Centre. \$1,125 was donated to Wellspring, in memory of Kit Benson.

Congratulations to LCC's teams of Joanne Laws (Skip), Penny Brown (Vice), Barb Gordon (Second) and Shery Chambers (Lead) who won the first draw and the "Curl for the Cure - Kit Benson Memorial Trophy" and to Darlene Pfaff (Skip), Sandra Williams (Vice) Jen Chapman (Second) and Amy Campbell (Lead), winners of the second draw. Thanks to all participants, to all those who sponsored the participants and to all those who donated items for the Silent Auction, Prize Table, Raffle, Food Table and Gift Bags.

A special thanks to the London Curling Club for donating the ice and club facilities and for the tremendous assistance provided by their staff to host this event. Thanks to Committee Members (Andrea Child, Maureen Cloghesy, Bev McDonald, Lesley Steele and Pat Steele) and to Volunteers (Jean Cameron, Marilyn Case, Jill Day, Paul Downing, Ed Harrison, Doreen Jones, Terry Kelly, Guiti Massoumi, Bill McDonald, Jessie McLean, Jan Murray, Paul Reily, Michael Rozon, Gary Shawyer, Marnie Sherritt, Mary Shorten, Harry Steele and Ken Walmsley), who helped to make this a truly successful event. We look forward to celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Curl for the Cure Women's Charity Bonspiel at the London Curling Club on Saturday, November 18, 2006.

*Thanks to all for a great day of fun, fellowship and good curling.*

*Thanks to all for joining us in the fight to end breast cancer.*



Pam Harrison (CFTC Bonspiel Chairperson) with STOHC Mascot "Little Scottie"



Photo credits Ken Walmsley



# News from our ...

## ... Juniors

Our Bantam/Junior Bonspiel is next weekend and we have 20 teams entered.

Several of our curlers have submitted entries for the STOHL Adopt a Junior Program and will be keeping their fingers crossed hoping they will be chosen to join one of the teams for a game.

Our final meeting before Christmas will be Dec 18th. We will be having a turkey shoot, participating in the STOHL Cbest to the Heart competition as well as our annual gift exchange.

If anyone knows a high school student who would like to join us, they are most welcome to come and try us out on a Sunday afternoon.

Sue Beckett, Convenor

## ... and Elementary School Age Curlers

Some club members may be wondering who are the "Elementary School Age Curlers"? The new title represents the joining of the two leagues, the Little Rocks and the Bantams.

The new league is a great success and our numbers have grown. The six sheets of ice are filled on Sunday afternoons and everyone is having a wonderful time. The young curlers are receiving excellent on ice instruction from Rick Battson, Darren Chapman, Teresa Easter, Brian Kearney, Caroline Pavlin, Shelley and Michael Zeeb, and Mark Zettler. Helping out with the younger children are two junior curlers, Christina Parsons and Kate Lyn Andrew. Their volunteer support and spirit is truly appreciated.

### Bonspiel Report:

Hats off to the Bantam team of David Easter (Skip), Aaron Chapman (3<sup>rd</sup>), Eric Le Dreff-Kerwin (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Mike Battson, (Lead). Their team had a great time and won first place in the Listowel Bantam Bonspiel and the prize was \$150.00. Way to go guys!

Two teams entered the St Thomas Little Rocks Bonspiel. Team 1 was Nathan Cowderoy (Skip), Brett Power, (Vice), Max Borowiec (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Dallas Ensing, (Lead). They placed fourth. Team 2 was Connor MacLeod (Skip), Andrea Holstein (Vice), Russell Cuddie (2<sup>nd</sup>), Blake Nichols (Lead). They tied for fifth place. Both teams thoroughly enjoyed the day and the train ride which was part of the day's activities. We are proud of you!!

Our Christmas Party is on December 18<sup>th</sup> and we are looking forward to a wonderful fun-filled day. Thank you to all the curling club staff for the great hospitality and warm welcome they give our curlers and their families.

We would also like to thank our sponsors whose assistance allows us to expand and change our league. Thank you to Middlesex-London Optimist Club, Tozer Electric, North Pole Trim & Supplies, and Why Signs?.

Linda Whidden, Convenor

## Name A Rock!!



LCC's "Name-A-Rock" Program is still in operation. For just \$100, your favourite curler can have his/her name engraved on an LCC curling stone. What a great Christmas surprise! Information is available at the office.



And please remember to contact Dot MacRae at [macraedot@aol.com](mailto:macraedot@aol.com) if you already have had a rock named in your honour, or if you have purchased a "name a rock" for someone else. Dot would appreciate any information or funny stories or secrets that you can provide to help her "research" project.

## It's THAT time again!

**Remember to clean your outdoor footwear on the boot cleaner inside the entry door.**

**Please do YOUR part to keep our floors and ice clean!**

*Jim Deacon*  
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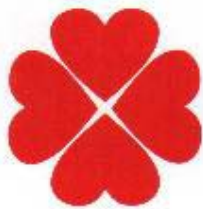
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**STEVE COX, B.A., H.B.A., C.R.M., C.A.I.B.**  
Corporate and Commercial Division



## interview

This is the third segment in a six-part series of "Question & Answer" interviews in Rock Talk this season with LCC Members who are involved in the organization and planning of the **2006 Scott Tournament of Hearts**. Previous issues have introduced Pat Chater (Director of Volunteer Recruitment, Uniforms and Appreciation) and Andrea Child (Director of Heartfest Activities). **Pat Steele** was Chairperson of the Scott when it was held in London in 1986. In this issue, she shares with you her experiences as 2006 STOH Director of Banquets and Receptions.

**RT:** Please tell our readers about your background, from a curling and professional standpoint.

**Pat:** I began curling at the Avonlea Curling Club in Don Mills. Our third child had started school, so this new venture with my curling friend sounded fun. Since that child is now 38 years old you can calculate how long I've been curling. It goes to show that the old adage "if you keep doing something long enough you'll improve" doesn't hold true! When we moved to London in 1975 my husband Harry began curling also. We have many fond memories of those early years—the friends we made and the joy of curling in an open league with our daughter Lesley and son Rick. The lure of a private curling club brought us to LCC in 1982 where we made more new friends and reunited with our former Ivanhoe buddies.

**RT:** What prompted you to volunteer with the 2006 Scott Tournament of Hearts?

**Pat:** The many facets of a hosting a major championship became known to me in 1981 when Dot MacRae asked if I would be Recording Secretary for the Air Canada Silver Broom. What an experience to see how the host committee, sponsor, and curling organizations all meld to provide the best possible experience for curlers and fans alike. I enjoyed a similar experience as Chair of the 1986 Scott Tournament of Hearts. At first I was ambivalent about volunteering when London was awarded the 2006 Scott. It's a lot of fun and a lot less work to sit in the stands and cheer, followed by more cheer at the Heartstop Lounge. However, when LCC had the pre-volunteer information day I got that old feeling that it would be fun to again work with a committee on this special event which brings back so many fond memories.

**RT:** As Director of Banquets & Receptions, to whom do you report and what are your pre-STOH responsibilities?

**Pat:** I report to Ann Lapchinski who is Vice-Chair of Special Events and Volunteers. Somehow Ann ended up with three LCC Directors under her portfolio. Ann is a member of the St. Thomas Curling Club and is a smart, organized and supportive person. I am responsible for organizing a Sponsors' Reception, CCA Opening Dinner, Scott President's Reception and the Scott Victory Banquet.

**RT:** Tell us about assembling your committee and the tasks that your "team" will be expected to accomplish before the first rocks are thrown at the STOH in late February.

**Pat:** My team consists of Joan Easter, Pam Harrison, Cathy Hedley, Lesley Steele and Bonny Shawyer. They will be fun to work with besides doing a great job. You need people you can count on. We will also coordinate some items with Marg Sirna's decorating committee. Perhaps our task can best be described by comparing it to planning a wedding: invitations, programs, wine, food, emcee, music, seating plans, etc. etc. Protocol for each event is provided by CCA and Scott.

**RT:** Your duties started in the spring of 2005. What specific work will have to be done during the "Scott" week in February-March, and when is your job officially completed?

**Pat:** The "Scott" week will be high volume as events require 2-3 hours set-up. The Victory Banquet will be the most elaborate and time consuming and will mark the end of our tasks. Perhaps the 2006 Scott champions presented at the banquet will once again be Ontario to repeat 1986. Final party time and a big sigh of relief. No job is complete without the paperwork; there is always the inevitable final report.



**Pat Steele**



## "HEARTS" TRIVIA

1. Scott Paper has been the official sponsor of the national women's curling championship since 1981. Team Canada has won the event 5 times. Which four provincial teams are tied at second place with four wins?
2. What was this championship called before Scott took it over, and what was the first year in which this event was run?

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## PARTING SHOTS

Yes, we have a new LCC bartender! Please stop by the bar and say "hi" to Cassandra.

A very Merry Christmas to everyone from your friendly bar staff!

... John (Santa!) Spetman

... Les Sonier

... Cassandra Watson

## Officially speaking ...



On November 26th, London Curling Club was the scene of a training seminar for Officials, Statisticians and Timers for the upcoming Scott Tournament of Hearts. Keith Reilly, CCA Head Official conducted the morning seminar, which was organized by Jim Waite and Bob Leatham (they share STOHL Directorship responsibilities for Officials, Statisticians and Timers). Neil Houston, CCA Manager of Championship Services and Special Programs, oversaw the afternoon session.

A total of 47 volunteers, all of whom are experienced curlers from this region, are being trained to handle this demanding STOHL portfolio.

## OLYMPIC TRIALS

The Olympic Curling Trials will take place in Halifax from December 3 – 11. The skips of the teams competing for the opportunity to represent Canada at the Olympic Games in Turin, Italy in the new year are:

Randy Ferby  
Kevin Martin  
John Morris  
Pat Ryan  
Jay Peachey  
Jeff Stoughton  
Brad Gushue  
Shawn Adams  
Mark Dacey  
Glenn Howard




Shannon Kleibrink  
Kelly Scott  
Jennifer Jones  
Colleen Jones  
Sherry Middaugh  
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## UPCOMING LCC SPECIAL EVENTS

### DECEMBER

- 3 Junior LCC Bonspiel
- 4 Sinners
- 5 Guy Hemmings Clinic
- 6 Guy Hemmings Visit
- 10 LCC Funspiel ... the Pre-Olympics
- 12 Senior Men Christmas Party
- 14 Women's Christmas Party
- 15 Business Women's Christmas Party
- 18 Elementary Christmas Party
- 22 Business Women's Party
- 24,25 CLUB CLOSED, Christmas Eve & Day
- 26 Boxing Day Open Curling by reservation, sign-up sheet posted at the bar
- 27-31 CLUB CLOSED

### JANUARY

- 1 CLUB CLOSED, New Year's Day
- 4 Women's Skins
- 6 Tier 55
- 7 McLaren Bonspiel
- 12,13,14 City of London
- 18 Grandmother's Bonspiel
- 21 Spring Thaw
- 30 Women's Card Party

## FRIDAY NIGHT MIXED

Don Agnew

The team-volunteer response for January Theme Night has been less than overwhelming, so I thought we would give you maybe a year more to think about it.

This January instead of Theme Night, we will hold a **"Mexican Fiesta Night"**. If you can't make it to Mexico this winter, don't be disappointed, --- we are replacing potluck on three Fridays with a Mexican Fiesta. Bring your sombrero and your suntan lotion -- and that night only, sandals will be allowed on the ice! For just \$15.00 per person you will get:

- Mexican Cuisine
- An alcoholic Beverage
- A 3-course Mexican Dinner
- A draw door prize
- And no need to prepare a potluck dish.



**Hasta Laviesta !!!**

**PS: Going with the 75% plus majority. There will be no Friday night curling December 23rd.**

## The McLaren Spiel is Back !!!

The date for this mixed funspiel has been rescheduled to January 7th and the sign-up sheet has been posted. Sign up soon -- and you'll be in for a great time! Enjoy breakfast, some great curling, a fantastic dinner and lots of surprises! For further information, please contact John Spetman, Dan Currie or Jason Larocque

## CITY OF LONDON

Entries are now being accepted for the 96th Annual City of London Bonspiel to be held from January 12 to 14. This event accommodates 24 men's teams in 6 events, 4 games guaranteed, with an entry fee of \$260. For more information or to confirm your entry, please call Greg Lewis at 471-3155 or e-mail

[greg.lewis@lhsc.on.ca](mailto:greg.lewis@lhsc.on.ca)

THE DETAILS HAVE BEEN FINALIZED FOR LCC'S ANNUAL

## Valentines Dinner

DATE: *Saturday, February 11, 2006*

DETAILS: *Appetizers @ 6 p.m., Cash Bar, Dinner (catered by Linda Arthur)*

ENTERTAINMENT: *Jazz and blues vocalist Carole Allison, with Jayne Hysen on keyboards and Al Taylor on percussion.*

TICKETS: *\$32, available after December 1st from Ken & Jean Walmsley, and Bruce & Mary Lois Cooper*



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