

ROCK TALK

Newsletter of the London Curling Club

December 2009

AL AND RUTH PRENTICE 101 YEARS OF CURLING AT THE LONDON CURLING CLUB!



Al Prentice is now in his 52nd year of curling at the Club, having joined in 1959 and Ruth Prentice is in her 49th year, having joined in 1961, a mere 10 years after women were admitted as members. I believe they must be the most senior couple members at the LCC. At that time, Alan Aylsworth was president; the Club offered instruction with one instructor for each two persons; the mixed league curled Friday evening, Saturday afternoon, Sunday afternoon and Sunday evening. Friday evening was potluck after you came off the ice at 9 p.m.. Ruth says that even though women were members, they were not particularly welcome in 1961!!

Ruth remembers thinking what a stupid game, standing around on ice, waiting, while others threw their rocks. However, after learning some of the intricacies of the game, with some help from Ray Turnbull at out-of-town clinics, she changed her mind and soon became the keen competitor that we know.

Al remembers with some nostalgia the corn brooms, followed by the rink rats along with the tremendous noise they created in the arena; the hair brushes with their shedding and the many picks that ensued; and finally, the synthetic brushes of today with their quiet but effective control of the rocks.

Maybe we should try a re-creation of their Thursday evening supper spiels. You had to sign up by Tuesday for the Thursday dinner at a cost of \$2.00. Al remembers a mixed Valentines' event when they were leading 9 to 0 after 5 ends and lost the game 10 to 9. How many of us remember similar games? The curling community was comprised of many community leaders who were fiercely competitive and you had to be careful to make sure it was not your shot(s) that determined the outcome of the game if the team was unsuccessful.

In the '60's, married women did not have jobs and so it was necessary to sign up very early in order to participate in the women's draws at the Club. We wish our leagues were as in demand today!

Al has now graduated to stick curling with the daytime men most Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. With his one good eye and a mean delivery, he is looking forward to several more years of curling and companionship at the LCC. Ruth still gets into the hack every Thurs. and skips her team; however, on Tuesdays, at the moment, she has moved to the vice position. Ruth says "What a wonderful game. You can curl from age 6 to age 90+ and meet many wonderful people."

We all wish Al and Ruth many more grand experiences with their friends at the London Curling Club.

Merry 
Christmas 



FROM THE PRESIDENT---

December is a very busy month for everyone so be sure to use your league spare list if you are unable to be present for a game.

For the last minute Christmas shopper, don't forget the great buys and excellent selection of curling equipment from our Pro Shoppe. Bob Davis has a great deal on replacement grippers to get rid of those old ones that leave debris on the ice.

Just a reminder, you are invited to book free ice for friends and family on Boxing Day, a great way to sweep away some of those extra Christmas calories.

With respect to renovations, the Property and Planning Committee chaired by Don Dudley, has submitted a grant application to New Horizons for Senior's, asking for funds to renovate the upper lounge and make repairs to the roof where the peaked roof meets the flat roof. On closer examination, we were surprised that we are not getting water leaking into the upper lounge from visible gaps in the interface. The Board decided to have repairs made the last weekend of November while the weather was still good because it had to be done whether we get the grant or not. Expected costs are \$5,000.

You might have noticed the two signs at the front of the building advertising the fact that the club received the grant for windows and lighting in the arena from the RinC program sponsored by the Federal and Provincial Governments.

We are pleased that Larry Round has stepped forward to fill the Treasurers position for the next three years.

On behalf of all the Board, we wish all members and staff a safe and very Merry Christmas.



Don Agnew
LCC President

A WORD OF THANKS!!

to Tom Pinches, of the Daytime Men's Section for building the very attractive cabinet to hold our new defibrillator and first aid kit.

Location by the bar, under the bulletin board.



2009-2010 Membership Numbers

The club currently has 666 members, down 53 members from the previous season.

To date, we have had 72 new members join the club, including 30 Learn-to-Curl participants.

Health, work and personal time commitments have been the primary reasons given by members who did not return, although many of this group have indicated that they do hope to return to the club at some point.

 <p>LONDON CURLING CLUB</p> <p>377 Lyle Street London, Ontario N5W 3R5 Telephone (519) 432-3882 E-mail londoncurling@execulink.com Website www.londoncurling.ca</p>	<p>BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE President Don Agnew Vice President Connie Weir Past President Bruce Cooper Treasurer Larry Round Secretary Pat Bell</p> <p>BOARD MEMBERS Peter Askey, Gwen Crossman, Denis O'Connor, Mary Cole, Tom Zavitz, Fay Weiler, John Fraser</p>	<p>CLUB STAFF Club Manager Doug Petch Office Manager Barb Colbourn Head Ice Technician Kevin Breivik Ice Assistants Ed Jermyn Scott Sinclair Matt Mueller Sarah Westman Jason Laroque David Easter Les Sonier Natalie Blake Janice Henry</p> <p>Ice Helper Bar Coordinator Bar Staff Housekeeper</p>	<p>WEBSITE Eric Duggan www.londoncurling.ca webmaster@londoncurling.ca</p> <p>ROCK TALK Karen Lowry 519-472-1625 rocktalk@londoncurling.ca Issue Deadlines: September 18 October 23 November 20 December 31 January 29 February 26</p>
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The 13th Annual "Curl for the Cure" Women's Charity Bonspiel was held at the Highland Country Club on Saturday, November 21st. Twenty-four teams from the Guelph, Highland, Ilderton, Kitchener, London and St. Thomas Curling Clubs were piped onto the ice by Ken Webster, London Fire Fighters' Pipe Band. It was another tremendously successful event, raising a total of \$34,581.50 for Rethink Breast Cancer to help support research at the London Regional Cancer Centre and to support public awareness and educational programs through Team Shan.

\$1,070 generated by the Raffle was donated to Wellspring, in memory of **Kit Benson**. Congratulations to Laura Rozon, Linda McFayden and Sheila Dempster, all from LCC, who raised the highest pledges in the amount of \$2,200, \$665 and \$600 respectively.

The total amount raised since Curl for the Cure was introduced to the London Curling Club in 1997 has increased to \$359,702.22.

Congratulations to the St. Thomas team of Gwen Roberts (Skip), Sandi Coombs (Vice), Suzanne Devlin (Second) and Lindsey Groeneweg (Lead), who won the first draw and to Guelph's team of Carol McKinnell (Skip), Janet Hamilton (Vice), Anne Larsen (Second) and Linda Davis (Lead), who won the second draw and the "Kit Benson Memorial Trophy".

Thanks to all LCC members who participated, 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 very special thanks to Pat Bell and Miolyka Steele for serving on the Committee and to Jill Day, Ed Harrison, Doreen Jones, Bev McDonald, Sharon McLaren, Carol Moir and Sandy Ronson for serving as Volunteers. Through their hard work and dedication, they each helped to successfully transfer this event to the Highland Country Club and to ensure their success and the continued success of Curl for the Cure.

The 14th Annual Curl for the Cure Women's Charity Bonspiel will be held at the Highland Country Club on Saturday, November 20, 2010.

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

Pam Harrison (LCC) and Lorraine Ollson (HCC)
Curl for the Cure Women's Charity Bonspiel Co-Chairs

FRIDAY MIXED LEAGUE--

The Friday Mixed league is looking for a convenor for the 2010-2011 season.

Please contact Nancy Myers for details and expectations.

Nancy Myers
519-455-7447

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ROLLING STONES CURLING!!



Six nights into the season, the leader board is as you would expect; basically split equally with multiple ties for four, three and two wins to date. The Turner rink continues hold a solid point lead while a cluster of teams compete to establish a firm grip on last place.

This year's change in scoring (10pts vs 5pts for the win) is wreaking havoc with the week-to-week standings. It seems a couple of consecutive wins can make a team feel pretty confident, until an untimely defeat drops them several positions down the list.

This is not a league for the timid - or for the overly serious.

None have been so frustrated though, as the Hewlette Rink of Darcy Thompson, John Turcott, Mike Reid and Steve Hewlette, who on Nov 11 would have made league history, but instead ended up with nothing but the tale of the one that got away.

Careful attention was given to building an end that would clinch the match, each player making their shot with unparalleled skill and dead accuracy. All Hewlette rocks remained in the house. It all came down to Steve's last rock - a delicate, but pretty straight forward double take-out that would leave them with an 8-ender. The opposing Richard Rink watched with baited breath as Steve's shot approached the house right on course.....and only narrowly missed the mark! Later, when Steve was asked for his insight and feeling about missing such a crucial shot, his response was heard across the entire clubhouse, "Ohhhh, I just \$%#@&^ BLEW IT!!!"

The Rolling Stones wish you and yours a safe and happy holiday season.

Good Curling!!

Ken Symns
Rolling Stones Communications



COUNTDOWN TO THE 100th CITY OF LONDON BONSPIEL -

This event, to be held at the London Curling Club January 9 and 10, 2010 is already full!

We are trying to do some research on the history of the City of London Bonspiel and could use some help from current and past members.

- Do you have any interesting memories of past events that you would like to share?

- Do you have any old City of London photos, news clippings or memorabilia that we could borrow for a display?

If so, please contact Greg Lewis. greglewis@rogers.com



FRIDAY KNIGHT OUT FUNDRAISER

Friday November 27, 2009

Congratulations to **Bonny Shawyer** and **Kevin Lock** who held winning tickets to the Friday Knight Out fundraiser!

Scotia McLeod and KPMG donated the tickets to the Friday Knight game. Chancey Smith's gave us gift certificates.

The proceeds from the draw are designated to refurbish the upstairs lounge. Thanks to everyone who sold and bought tickets to support this fundraiser. Ticket sellers were Bruce Cooper, Don Dudley, Ray McCorquodale, Joyce Hetherington, Pam Harrison, Dianne McKenna, Kevin Bentley, Ken McKinley, Teresa Easter and Karen Lowry who also created the tickets and posters.

Together we raised \$1290.00 for LCC.

Jean Cameron Chair
Women's Daytime Section

Bob Lauckner
Broker

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SENIOR MEN---



Frank van Diepenbeek, Gord Browne
Rob Arnett, Jim Lone,

The 2009-2010 season is underway and so far we have 65 participants with 4 new members--Al Boniface, Gord Brown, Gord Browne and Mike Moir--to all a warm welcome.

Bonspiel season opened with a T60 in Chatham on 11/4/09 and, as usual, our Roger LeBlanc came first with his team of Dan McInnes, Garry Thompson and Bob Davis. Taking a second was the team of Chuck Townsend, Al MacLeod, Laurie McKenna and Bob Wakefield.

On 11/07/09 at the Mixed Spiel in Mt. Hope the team of Roger LeBlanc, Marguerite LeBlanc, Garry Thompson and Lotta Hope took second.

The LCC hosted the Tier 65 on 11/11/09 with our own Jim Lone, Frank van Diepenbeek, Gord Browne and Rob Arnett taking first place overall, followed by the team of Neil Desborough from Ingersoll.

Highland Friendly quite often is a misnomer and on 11/17/09 it looked like we were again going to be thumped, with sheet six ringing up a 24 to 3 deficit. The rest of the LCC contingent rallied and we ended up 71 to 66 overall in our favour. Second leg will be at the LCC on 02/02/10.

St. Mary's hosted the T60 on 11/18/09 and once again the team of Roger LeBlanc, Dan McInnes, Garry Thompson and Bob Davis took first place in their draw, followed closely by the team of Bill McFarlane, Bob Freel, Willy Weiler and John Dickson. The team of Jim Lone, Frank VanDiepenbeek, Paul Pergau and Rob Arnett pulled down a second in the second draw.

Special thanks to Tom Pinches for his talent in creating the case for the AED defibrillator next to the bar.

For those of you who may remember him we lost Peter Danis on Monday 11/15/09 at the age of 74.

-Ray McCorquodale

Mark Saturday, January 16, 2010 on Your Calendars

Look for details to be posted shortly of a special event being planned for Saturday, January 16 (7:00 – 10:00 p.m.).

The program will include a one-hour curling clinic led by the LCC Instructor & Coach Team. The clinic is designed for both new & experienced curlers to improve their skills. You will be able to put this into practice in some informal games which will follow the skills clinic. Of course, we will round out the evening with some hospitality in the lounge.

Club members are encouraged to bring along friends to this event to introduce them to the club and to share in a great social evening.

Registration details will be posted in the club in December.



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All times are Mountain Time Zone

DAY	TIME	DRAW	A	B	C	D
Sunday	1:00pm	1	Kleibrink Webster	Jones Holland	Bernard McCarville	Scott Lawton
	6:00pm	2	Howard Stoughton	Martin Gunnlaugson	Koe Simmons	Middaugh Ferbey
Monday	8:30am	3	Holland Bernard	Kleibrink Scott	Lawton Webster	McCarville Jones
	1:00pm	4	Gunnlaugson Koe	Howard Middaugh	Ferbey Stoughton	Simmons Martin
	6:00pm	5	Jones Scott	McCarville Lawton	Holland Kleibrink	Bernard Webster
Tuesday	8:30am	6	Martin Middaugh	Simmons Ferbey	Gunnlaugson Howard	Koe Stoughton
	1:00pm	7	Lawton Holland	Webster Jones	Scott Bernard	Kleibrink McCarville
	6:00pm	8	Ferbey Gunnlaugson	Stoughton Martin	Middaugh Koe	Howard Simmons
Wednesday	8:30am	9	Scott McCarville	Bernard Kleibrink	Jones Lawton	Webster Holland
	1:00pm	10	Middaugh Simmons	Koe Howard	Martin Ferbey	Stoughton Gunnlaugson
	7:30pm	11	Bernard Jones	Holland McCarville	Webster Scott	Lawton Kleibrink
Thursday	8:30am	12	Koe Martin	Gunnlaugson Simmons	Stoughton Middaugh	Ferbey Howard
	1:00pm	13	McCarville Webster	Lawton Bernard	Kleibrink Jones	Holland Scott
	6:00pm	14	Simmons Stoughton	Ferbey Koe	Howard Martin	Gunnlaugson Middaugh
PLAYOFFS						
Friday	6:00pm	SF		WOMEN		
Saturday	1:00pm	SF		MEN		
	6:00pm	FINAL		WOMEN		
Sunday	1:00pm	FINAL		MEN		
TIE BREAKER DRAW TIMES (if required)						
Thursday (Night)	10:30pm	TB				
Friday	8:30am	TB				
	1:00pm	TB				



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Women's Daytime Section News

New Member: My apologies to Isobel Lynch whose name was missed in the November issue. We welcome Isobel and wish her good curling this season as a new member. Penny Brown is her Big Sister.

Jeanette's Early Bird Bonspiel (Sherry Chambers, Convenor/Barb Vitkauskas, Co-Convenor)

On November 4th, forty eight competitors gathered to curl in the Jeanette's Early Bird Bonspiel. There were four out of town teams and eight LCC teams competing.

The bird theme was reflected in the club's decorations with three large birds greeting curlers as they entered the club. Yellow serviettes with metal stands holding small birds in metal birdcages were used to decorate the downstairs tables. The upstairs tables were adorned with a wooden stand holding a ceramic blue jay and cardinal with a candleholder in the center. The single draw event was catered by LanDen Farms and enjoyed by all.

The Trophy winners from Highland Curling club were: Ruth Alexander, Gayle George, Karen Webster and Sue Bierbaum.

Special thanks to Joyce Hetherington for sponsoring this event. Joyce is a member of our club and one of the "Jeanettes". Joyce's husband Tom, her niece Heather and Heather's daughter Lillian joined us for lunch and the trophy presentations.

Thank you to all the volunteers who made this event such a success.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE WOMEN'S SECTION

December 3 rd	PASQUALE'S	(Barb Vitkauskas & Dale McIntyre)
December 8 th	BERNIE'S	(Pat Bell & Jan Murray)
December 9 th	CHRISTMAS PARTY	(Marianne LaRose & Sandy Ronson & Cathy Townsend)
January 28 th	BYOP	(Fay Weiler & Joan Bidinosti)
January 27 th	CARD PARTY	(Penny Brown)
February 2 nd	SKINS GAME	(Sandy Ronson & Pat Bell)
February 9 th	Nash	(Holly Cox & Penny Brown)
February 17 th	Curl for a Cause	
February 18 th	Subway	(Marilynne Van Buskirk & Beth Parker (Dagenais))
March 1 st & 2 nd	Sheila Betkus 2Day	(Dot MacRae's Team)

"Club History: Did You Know?"



The first curling stones used in the early 1700's in Canada were likely the circular metal hub centres of gun carriage wheels, with handles added.

In the latter half of the 1700's iron "stones" were introduced weighing 60-80 pounds for men; 40-48 pounds for women.

Sliding has been a much later addition to the game. The first stones were delivered with a one or two step release from the hack.

The term "hog line" is derived from the Scottish term "hog" for a weak, first-year lamb that had to be culled from the flock.

Tim Hortons

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UPCOMING EVENTS--

December 1-2	TD CANADA trust in honour of Harry Sifton Classic Bonspiel
December 9	WDS Christmas Party
December 12	Bantam/Junior Bonspiel
December 15	DT Men Christmas Lunch
December 24-25	Club closed
December 26	Opening Curling - Reservation required
December 27-31	Club closed
January 1	Club closed
January 9-10	City of London Cashspiel 2010
January 13	WDS Grandmother's Bonspiel
January 15	Men's Tier 55
January 16	3M Bonspiel
January 23	LCC Spring Thaw Mixed Bonspiel 2010
January 27	WDS Card Party
January 30	Business Women LCC Bonspiel

IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME AT THE PRO SHOPPE!

Can you believe it's less than a month until Christmas? But, we can help.

Your Pro Shoppe has an extensive line of clothing items, including jackets, fleece vests, golf shirts and hats – all embroidered with the Club logo.

Teams ordering 4 or more of the same item enjoy a 10% discount.

A few more suggestions include, ladies and mens curling pants, gloves, mitts, stop watches, and a large selection of curling brooms.

Still not sure? Why not a gift certificate available from \$10 and up and good for the entire 2009-2010 curling season.

So this Christmas, please consider giving a gift from Your London Curling Club Pro Shoppe. And as always, our prices include all taxes.

HELP REQUIRED... to maintain "clean" ice. To help our ice-maker Kevin Brevik and all curlers, The Pro Shoppe is offering a special "KEEP OUR ICE CLEAN SALE" of grippers. For the month of December only trade-in your used gripper and receive a brand new gripper for only \$10.00.

If we all take advantage of this opportunity to renew our grippers, the curling experience will be greatly improved. We need your help!

BOXING DAY CURLING



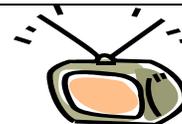
Once again this year we will offer limited Boxing Day curling for our members and their families/friends.

Curling times will be 10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, and 2:00 p.m.. All six sheets will be available and a bartender will be on duty from 11:00 a.m. The schedule will be posted early in December.

Watch for it and sign up quickly. First come- first served! Plan your outing now.

Doug Petch Club Manager

Raffle a Success!!



The October television raffle successfully raised \$2270 – enough to more than cover the cost of two TV's – one for the club and one for the winning member.

The television was won by **Ken Buchan**. Congratulations, Ken!

A big thank you to the members who supported the raffle by buying tickets.



RECYCLE THOSE CUPS!

As a reminder, we do have a bin at the bar to recycle the plastic cups people use for water or pop.

Also, we recycle cans, so any you may bring into the club can be left at the bar as well.

So.... don't throw those cups or cans in the garbage pails around the club.

RECYCLE!

THANK YOU CARDS'



Pick up a supply of our advertise/sponsor thank you cards on your next LCC visit. Available in the lower lounge and women's locker room.

A warm way to acknowledge and thank our many LCC sponsors, advertisers and curling boosters.

HOLIDAY PLANT SALE!!



Plants can be picked up on Friday, Dec. 4th anytime of day or evening starting at 8:30 am,

Social members picking up plants are invited to have coffee and conversation in the upper lounge at 11:15am.

Merry Christmas
Marlene and Marianne