

ROCK TALK

Newsletter of the London Curling Club

January 2010



The 100th CITY OF LONDON BONSPIEL

The 100th City of London Bonspiel was held on the weekend of January 9/10 and judging from the feedback (and the bar receipts!) it was definitely one of the best ever.

This year's champions are the team of Ken Baute, Jim Lyle, Hal Shaw and Peter Hayman from the St. Thomas Curling Club. Shaw replaced Ted Smith who played with the others to win this event last year. Baute's team faced former LCC member Perry Smyth from Chatham in the final game. With the score tied 5-5 after 6 ends, Smyth needed an angle raise with his last rock to get shot in the 7th end, but hit the nose instead giving Baute a steal of 2 and a 7-5 lead. In the last end Smyth needed to hit and stick on his final shot to score 2 and send the game into extra ends, but his shooter rolled out, giving Baute his fourth City of London title.



(L-R) Ken Baute, Jim Lyle, Hal Shaw and Peter Hayman

A very dedicated group of volunteers worked together to make sure the event ran smoothly and that everyone had a great time. I would like to personally thank the team of Fay Weiler, Fred McDonald, Faye McDonald, Bruce Thom and my wife Dawn for all of your efforts. An event like this takes a lot of time and hard work, and the curlers truly appreciated the hospitality that we were able to provide.

Thank you as well to event sponsors Casco, London Life and Siskinds for their continued financial support, and to suppliers Norm Ducharme, Landen Farms Catering, Tim Horton's and Diamond Estates Wines.

With strong support from our sponsors and a dedicated team of volunteers, we were able to provide all of the food for the weekend at no additional cost to the curlers. That is a unique offering on the cashspiel circuit and the curlers loved it. It also helped to keep them in the club... hence the bar receipts!

The 100th City of London was something that deserved a celebration and we really wanted to focus on the history of this event. It may seem odd, but there was no single place where you could go to find a list of the past champions. In the early years it appears that the winners won the trophy but their names were not engraved on it. As well, over the years trophies were lost, retired or replaced, and they were also rotated meaning that no single trophy recorded the winners each year.

Our best bet was to work through the archives at the UWO library where both the London Curling Club and London Free Press archives exist. I was able to find some interesting articles about the City of London dating back to 1911, and pulled together a partial list of past winners. All of this was documented in the newsletter which was available in the club last week. If you would like a copy please inquire in the office.

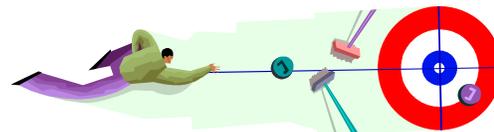
We also assembled a display on the main floor with all of the trophies and various items that were donated by past champions. During the event, many of the curlers took time to look over the display, and for those that may not have competed in the City of London before, it gave them a sense of what they were competing for and the history behind it.

Each of the curlers was presented with a commemorative pilsner glass, etched with "100th City of London, 2010" to take home as a keepsake for being a participant in this historic event. This was a nice touch and the curlers really appreciated it.

Thanks again to everyone (curlers, volunteers, sponsors and staff) who helped to make this event a great success!

Greg Lewis, Convenor

Cleaning your Rock
-page 4



FROM THE PRESIDENT---

Happy New Year and welcome back to the last half of the curling season.

Thanks to all who supported our Pro Shoppe in December as sales for the month doubled our year to date sales. More than 30 old grippers were turned in to take advantage of the special price on a new one that shouldn't mark the ice.

Almost all our new lockers are in use and locker rental is up 240% over last year. Even if you don't rent a locker, we ask all members to change shoes in the locker rooms.

As of December, membership compared to last year at this time is down about 1/2 dozen and total membership revenue is even with last year. Over the last few years, we have lost revenue from those who changed from full membership to only curling in one league. For only \$110 you can double or triple your curling by becoming a full member with unlimited curling.

Member Services are promoting January as bring a family member, relative or friend to try curling for free. Maybe you have a neighbor who would like to give it a try. Sign them up for one of our Learn To Curl sessions, a clinic or any daytime draw.

Unfortunately, we had a rash of car break-ins during December. We are looking into security options. Do not leave any items within view in your car - particularly a GPS.

We appreciate those volunteers that organize the many bonspiels run at the club. They wouldn't happen without their efforts. We would particularly like to thank Greg Lewis for the work he put into this years 100th anniversary City of London Bonspiel this past weekend. The trophies and news clipping display at the south end of the lounge showed the rich tradition of the 100 year event.

Don Agnew
LCC President

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY 2009 / 2010

The updates are now available in various places around the club for the directory.

AROUND THE HOUSE--



East End Gable Repaired!!

Before



It was very bad!!!



Getting the job done!!

Looking a lot better!!!



All Done!!!!



LONDON CURLING CLUB

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Issue Deadlines: September 18
October 23
November 20
December 31
January 29
February 26

LCC JUNIOR BONSPIEL

On Saturday, December 12, our club hosted the annual LCC Bantam Junior Bonspiel. Proud family and friends watched the teams, aged 13 to 18, play some awesome curling matches.

We had two full draws, 12 bantam and 12 junior rinks, each playing two games with lunch in between. The London Curling Club was represented by, count them, 8 teams!

In the bantam division, team Brock from Exeter finished first. The Kee rink from Sarnia were the junior champions.

At the end of the day, all curlers received prizes and celebrated their successes.

Thanks to convener Jennifer Cuddie and her group of hard-working volunteers for running the bonspiel.



Team Hopkins sweeps a rock in



LCC rinks Mills & Westaway go head to head

Happy New Year to all LCC Members from Rolling Stones Curling!

Well, it's been a banner first half of the season for Skip Bruce Turner, taking his team of Sean Haddow(l), Derek Hietkamp(s) and Frank Hubbs(v) to first place at the end of our regular schedule. The rink managed to rise to the top of the leader board right out of the gate and remained there each and every week. Congratulations guys, on winning the Devries Trophy!

Bruce also had the honour and excitement of participating in the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch Relay running his 300 meters in Halifax, on November 18.

The second half of the season, our playoffs, begins January 6 as we compete for the coveted Jim Finn trophy. In recent memory, only the formidable Kirk Taylor (Kaptain) has managed to clinch both regular schedule and playoff trophies in the same season. With the Olympic spirit behind him and a strong crew at his side, perhaps Bruce is poised to capture the entire season, as well!

Ken Symns
Rolling Stones Communications



TEASDALE SENIOR LEAGUE-

The Teasdale League round robin games are a little more than 50% complete with 7 more games after Christmas. So far, the top 5 teams are McLennan, Lone, Townsend, Weiler, and 4 teams tied for 5th--Buchan, Bancroft, McInnes, Benson.

On Dec. 17, we held our annual SKINS Game with 10 teams participating. Team Bancroft (with the earmuffs) was pitted against Team Townsend and both teams put on a good show. Chuck won the first 4 SKINS and when the big bucks are on the line, Mike and his team "put the pedal to the metal" and won the last 4 SKINS. There were no carryovers in the game, something that doesn't happen often.

The regular round-robin season ends on Feb. 18 with playoffs for the top 6 teams during the last 5 weeks of curling.

Co-convenors--Gord Sellery
& Ron McLennan

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CLEANING YOUR ROCK

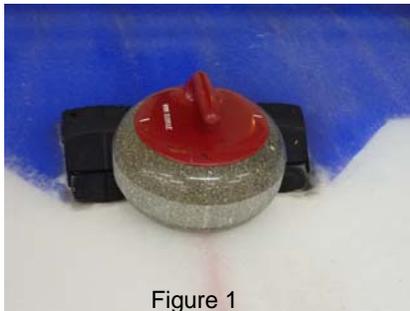


Figure 1

The correct placement for tipping the stone for cleaning using the hacks is as shown in Figures 1 and 2.

NOTE: The stone is placed between the two hacks.

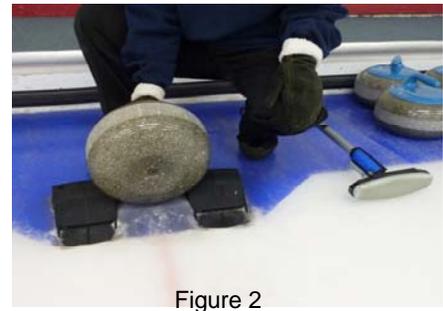


Figure 2

Once the stone is tipped, Figures 3a and 3b show how to clean a stone between with either your hand, or a broom, respectively.

Don't forget to clear away any debris that may fall on to the ice below the stone, before gently setting the stone back down.

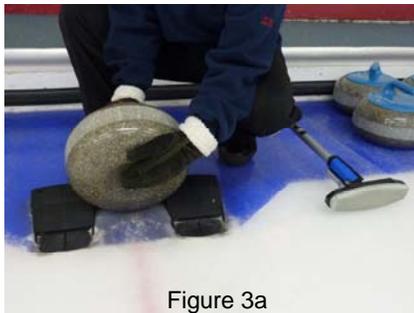


Figure 3a

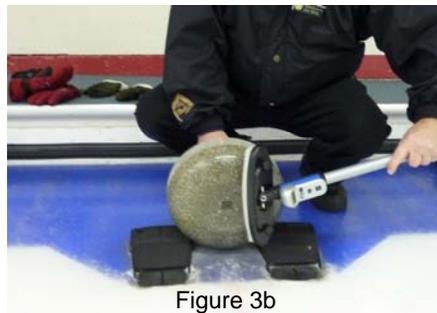


Figure 3b



Figure 4

Figure 4 shows that it is not necessary to put a knee, or knees on the ice **AND** that you perform the tipping action with both feet behind the hacks.

Remember ... please try to avoid putting any warm parts of your body on the ice. If it does occur ... please remove those parts (hands, knees, etc.) as quickly as possible (stand up to watch your rock) as damage will occur to the ice which can unexpectedly influence the direction in which the stone is traveling.

The **INCORRECT** placement for tipping the stone for cleaning using the hacks is as shown in Figure 5.

DO NOT use one hack as they are recessed hacks and such an action will cause unwanted chipping of the ice around the hack.

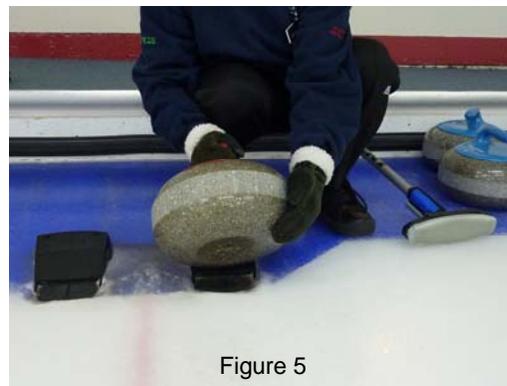


Figure 5



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DAYTIME MEN'S LEAGUE

December was here and gone, it seems in a flash with a lot going on with the Daytime Men. The first thing I will report is on our good friend Bud Boyd who had a medical problem at the Ingersoll Bonspiel in the early part of December. He spent three weeks in University Hospital and is now home. His neighbor, Terry Crawford, is keeping us up to date as to his progress and it looks like he will be back on the links this summer. He can't really take too many visitors and if you would like to wish him well (maybe a phone call) then he will let you know if he is up to it.

The Daytime Men had their Xmas luncheon December 15th and the daytime executive decided to prepare the food. The chefs were Derek Smith, Al Starratt and John Rudell and myself . I had no idea that John was so good at doing dishes. There was one fatality when I dropped half of a black forest cake on the floor. By doing the cooking ourselves we were able to have cash prizes for the guys and as follows. Bob Davis, \$10.00, Bob Coates, \$25.00, Lew Stacey, \$50.00 and the big prize of \$75.00 went to Hank Buechler. Peter Jackson and Don Mckay stayed back to help cleanup. Much appreciated.

Just a reminder that the Highland Friendly is coming up on the 2nd of February and the sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. As you know when we visited them in November, we came home with a six point lead. Try to make it a point to participate as this competition has been in effect for some time and it seems the Highland crowd comes out on top most of the time, however, not this time. In the past, we have had a 09.00 start and it states that in the membership calendar. We have changed the start to 09.15 and I know you know why."

Great News - Bud Boyd has been seen lurking around LCC.

I extend on behalf of the executive that everyone has an excellent New Year.

Ray McCorquodale,
Daytime Men's Representative.

IN-ICE LOGOS

I'm sure that all the members of the club are pleased with the appearance of the new in-ice logos at the home end. The revenue received from these advertisers is welcome indeed.

The Advertising committee is going to make a concerted effort to sell logos for the ice sheets at the away end for the 2010/2011 season. This would, in effect, double our revenue from this season.

Kudos and congrats to the Advertising Committee for a job well done.

Dennis O'Connor

2009 TD Canada Trust Bonspiel

The 2009 TD Canada Trust Bonspiel (in honour of **Harry Sifton**) proved to be a real nail-biter with the winner decided on the very last rock of the match.

The 2007 winner came back to repeat. The LCC team of Bob Freel, Ron McLennan, Bruce Cooper and Bob Wakefield, eeking out a 1/4 point victory over the 2008 winners of Murray Sinclair from the Sarnia Curling Club and his team of Peter Burns, Dave Bartlett and Larry Hartnett.

Out of the 28 teams that participated the top 9 received a turkey. As well as the above, the team of Chuck Townsend, Al Macleod, Ken Novlan and Laurie McKenna finished tied for third. Also taking home turkeys were the team of Jim Fitzpatrick, Harry Steele, Ken Walmsley and Randy Southen, along with the team of Bill McFarlane, Don Dudley, Willie Weiler and Larry Round--for a total of 4 out of nine. The remaining non-winners received a commemorative bottle of wine.



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2009 Winners from LCC



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Bring a Friend to Curling



During the month of January, there are several opportunities available to bring a friend/family member out to the club. This is a great way to introduce someone to our sport and to our club. Sign-up sheets are posted on the easel in the first floor lounge. There is no charge for any of the events.

Tuesday Daytime: Bring a friend out on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. either to join the Senior Men or to practice on an open sheet of ice.

Tuesday Evenings: Bring a friend out and join the Learn to Curl program for some instruction. January 5 and 19 (5:30 p.m.); January 12 and 26 (7:45 p.m.)

Saturday, January 16: Skills clinic and funspiel (7:00 p.m.) Sign up for round three of the skills clinic followed by a six-end game.

Automobile Break-ins



December was a bad month around the parking lot at the LCC, as there were 8 windows broken and cars entered by thieves. Some valuables, such as GPS systems and loose change were stolen by these thieves.

After a couple of years with little or no break-ins in our parking lot, the poor economy likely led to the current rash of 'smash and grab' incidents.

Lighting didn't seem to be the factor, as half of the break-ins occurred during the morning and afternoon.

The Board is looking into the problem and trying to come up with a solution. Stay tuned. In the meantime, we are asking our staff to check the parking lot from time to time, to try to discourage the culprits, and have asked the police to try to give us more presence in the area..

Doug Petch
Club Manager

OCA Report – January 2010



Men's Report

We have one entry in the Master Men's category, January 15-18, in Blenheim. The team consists of skip Jack McLaren, Vice Phil Desveaux, Second Cam Murray and lead Jim Lane.

We also have a two-team entry for the upcoming Men's Silver Tankard. This event takes place the weekend of January 30th in Chatham. Representing the London Club will be the team of Dave Beckett, Tom Zavitz, Paul Reily and Chris Thompson. The second half of the men's entry consists of Jack McLaren, Brian Parsons, Derek Shadlock and Mike Ramsey.

Women's Report

One of our Women's teams will be very active in the upcoming weeks. The team of Sue Lawrence, Linda McFadyen, Deanna Dougan and Rhonda Persichilli along with their coach Warren Brooke have entered the following events: the Women's Challenge January 8th in Windsor, the Women's Tankard January 30th in Chatham, Intermediate Women February 5th in London at the Highland Curling Club and the Women's Trophy the weekend of February 12th in Wallaceburg.

Accompanying Sue's team at the two-team entry in the Women's Tankard will be Eileen Rochefort, Wendy Foster, Judy Clark and Cheryl Phillips.

Junior Curling – Teresa Easter

We had one Boys and one Girls team represent the LCC at the Bantam Zones in Kingsville this past weekend. The girls' bantam team made it out the B side - it's the first time in a very long time - and they are off to Regionals in St. Mary's (Haley, Victoria, Andrea & Heather).

The boys' did not fair as well, but being a younger team, they did well and represented our club well with their sportsmanship & etiquette!

We're very proud of all the players & thank their parents for supporting them.

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WOMEN'S DAYTIME SECTION NEWS



Young and Company (Donna Millar, Convenor/Sydney Davidson, Co-Convenor)

On November 26th following a 6 week event, 32 curlers and 3 guests gathered to enjoy a lunch. Mr. Bill Young awarded the trophy and prizes to the winning teams. First Place was awarded to Jill Day, Dianne McKenna, Holly Cox, and Cheryl Adams. The team of Doreen Stacey, Karen Shearer, Marnie Sherritt, and Carole Darowski won Second Place. Third place winners were Penny Brown, Mardi McLaughlin, Cathy Townsend and Isobel Lynch. Many thanks to Young and Company who have been a generous sponsor for 10 years.

Studio H (Dot MacRae, Convenor/Lynda Reesor, Co-Convenor)

A new event, a new sponsor. We welcomed the support of Heather Wenman, of Studio H, as we began the first six-week event of the WDS. She generously donated gift certificates and gift packs to the winners. The lucky (best curling) teams in the event were:

- 1st - Marlene Benny, Ruth Prentice, Linda Karl and Barb Vitkauskas.
 - 2nd - Janet Stenson, Bonny Shawyer, Fay Weiler, Joanne Diehl
 - 3rd - Jayne Broughton, Jean Cameron, Cathy Townsend and Sydney-Ann Davidson
- The final game day, saw an autumn theme prevailing as we enjoyed our "finger food" lunch. Thanks to Linda Reesor and Mary Ellen Duggan.



Friendship Day (Deanne Fitzpatrick, Convenor/Marilynne Van Buskirk, Co-Convenor)

On Wednesday, November 25th, 18 WDS members and 22 guests (including 3 men) enjoyed a fun filled Friendship Day. Theresa Easter had everyone doing warm-up exercises first and then on ice instruction with the help of two of our senior men, Jack Nichol and Don McKay as well as several of our WDS women. Stick delivery techniques were also provided. We really did appreciate all the help.

We played one, six end game with teams of five to enable us to have help for so many inexperienced players. A soup and salad lunch was enjoyed by all. This was an excellent day to encourage people to try our game and possibly join our club. Several expressed an interest and took home registration forms.

My thanks to all who helped make Friendship Day a great success. Especially Ruth Prentice, Fay Weiler and Linda Peeling who were great Kitchen helpers. A special thanks to Bob Davis from the Pro Shop for providing a \$ 50 gift certificate which was won by one of our guests, Chris Rumard.

Christmas Party (Marianne LaRose, Convenor/Sandy Ronson & Cathy Townsend, Co-Convenors)

LCC Women's Daytime Section celebrated the 2009 Christmas season with a 6 end draw and luncheon on Wed. Dec. 9. Sixty-five present and past members shared in the fun and frivolities. It was wonderful to share this time with our curling friends. Also, we were pleased to be able to include Barb Colbourn and Janice Henry as our WDS guests. After a delicious lunch we enjoyed a very entertaining performance by the 'In a Heartbeat' quartet organized by our very own Marj Dudley.

I would like to say a special 'thank you' to our 2009 Christmas luncheon team, all of their hard work made this event such a success. Carol Moir created a fantastic meal for us, Fay Weiler oversaw the curling games, Pat Bell & Mary Reeder were the able kitchen helpers and the luncheon committee co-chairs were Sandy Ronson & Cathy Townsend. Thank you also to everyone who contributed to the two big boxes of items donated to 'My Sister's Place'. They are very much appreciated.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE WOMEN'S SECTION

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	(Sharon Sivak/Fay Weiler)
February 18 th	Subway	(Marilynne Van Buskirk/ Beth Parker(Dagenais)
March 1 st & 2 nd	Sheila Betkus 2Day	(Dot MacRae's Team)

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UPCOMING EVENTS--

January-

January 9-10	City of London Bonspiel
January 13	WDS Grandmothers Bonspiel
January 15	Men's Tier 55
January 16	3M Bonspiel
January 23	LCC Spring Thaw Mixed Bonspiel
January 27	WDS Card Party
January 30	LCC Business Women's Bonspiel

February-

February 6	UWO Bonspiel
February 13	Rolling Stones Bonspiel
February 17	WDS Curl for a Cause
February 20	Shriners Bonspiel
February 23	Club Closed for Maint.
February 24	Club Closed for Maint. until 5PM
February 27-28	TCCL Bonspiel

BOXING DAY WAS FUN!



With 6 full sheets on each draw (10:00, 12:00 and 2:00) members and their families and friends shook off the 'after-Christmas blahs' and engaged in some physical activity on December 26th.

Many were just learning about the game, but the members were able to teach them enough so that no bad falls or injuries were reported. Of course, we don't know about sore muscles on December 27th and 28th!

Thanks to Matt Mueller for getting the ice ready all day, and to Ben Mercer for opening the bar and serving all day.

Watch for a repeat next year!!

Doug Petch
Club Manager

PRO SHOPPE



THE FIRST HALF OF THE CURRENT CURLING SEASON IS NOW COMPLETED AND I AM PLEASED TO REPORT THAT THE PRO SHOPPE IS ENJOYING EXCELLENT SALES. THE CREDIT FOR THIS SUCCESS IS DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE EFFORTS OF OUR INTERIM MANAGERS, OUR SALES ASSOCIATES, BARB AND DOUG IN THE OFFICE, AND MOST CERTAINLY OUR MEMBERS.

FOR THE BALANCE OF THE SEASON, WE WILL BE RELYING ON CURRENT INVENTORY TO SUPPLY THE NEEDS OF OUR CURLERS, AND WILL ONLY ORDER-IN "SOLD" ITEMS IN ORDER TO ALLOW OUR INVENTORY TO RECEDE TO NORMAL LEVELS.

SO, IF THERE IS SOMETHING YOU ARE CONSIDERING PURCHASING, NOW WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO BUY.

ONCE AGAIN, MANY THANKS FOR SUPPORTING "YOUR PRO SHOPPE".

Bob Davis,
Volunteer Manager



2010 Spring Thaw Mixed Bonspiel

Happy New Year everyone!

Please mark Saturday, January 23 on your new calendar.

Our club will be hosting the annual Spring Thaw Mixed Bonspiel. It will be a full day of curling, including: two 8-end games, a hot full-course lunch, coffee, snacks, and of course prizes, prizes, prizes.

The game times will be determined when all team are registered (deadline January 18). The cost is \$120 per team, or \$30 per individual. Sign up early to avoid disappointment.

For more information, contact Steve Hobbs 226-663-1404, or stevehobbs@hotmail.com.

HAPPY 85TH BIRTHDAY TO RUTH PRENTICE!!!!



The WDS executive hosted a party for Ruth following curling on January 13 in honour of her 85th birthday.

Many former members who have curled at LCC over the years returned to wish Ruth a Happy Birthday!!!

Cake and punch were provided and we all sang

Happy Birthday!!!
in our best voices to her!