

ROCK TALK

Newsletter of the London Curling Club

March 2012

WDS SHEILA BETKUS TWO-DAY BONSPIEL



The WDS hosted their "Diamond Jubilee" on March 5th and 6th to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of their Two-Day Bonspiel. 96 curlers from the Aylmer, Chatham, Elmvalle, Glanford, Ilderton, Ingersoll, London, Sarnia and Tillsonburg Curling Clubs participated in this event and enjoyed the celebration with lots of good curling, food, fellowship and fun.

In keeping with the anniversary theme, many participants dressed for dinner as women would have dressed in 1952 and the variety of costumes worn in the past were enjoyed by everyone. The "Dynamic Duo" of Joan Bidinosti and Marilyn Hart hosted the entertainment "60 Diamond Memories" providing a reprise of two hilarious costumed skits from the past. The Queen, also celebrating her Diamond Jubilee (Joan Bidinosti) brought greetings from "the other London", guarded by Mountie (Joan Cuthbert). Elvis (Janet Stenson) participated in the entertainment and Marj Dudley led a sing song, with the closing number composed by Marg Fliss. Thanks to former LCC members (Betty Burrows, Jean McDonald and Kay Wicks), as well as many current members for participating and helping to provide the entertainment, which was enjoyed by all!



'The Queen' Joan Bidinosti

Curlers competing in the final draw were piped onto the ice by Eileen Robertson. Winners of the Bonspiel and First Event, sponsored by Scotiabank, were Christa Brouwer, Ferne Taggart, Judy VanYmeren and Louise Sawyer from Aylmer.



First Event Winners-Scotiabank

Other Trophy Winners were:

- Event 2: Jackson-Triggs - *Miolyka Steele, Wendy Foster, Deb Pullen, Deanna Dougan(London)*
- Event 3: London Honda - *Jeanette Pesall, Bozena Boadway, Kathi Vandermeer, Bertha Strickland (Aylmer)*
- Event 4: Krown Rust Control - *Sharon Philpott, Gen Kennedy, Marie Lackie, Kathy Newman (Sarnia)*
- Event 5: Can-Am RV Centre - *Carolyn Sheppard, Mary Lynne Patterson, Joanne Hodgins, Judi Rooke (Ilderton)*
- Event 6: Mykonos - *Lil Richardson/Sue Beckett, Bonny Shawyer, Cathy Townsend, Darlene ten Haaf/Marilyn Wearing (London)*



To the Curlers!!!

The bonspiel was a tremendous success and we extend our sincerest appreciation to our very generous sponsors. A special thank you to our fabulous kitchen helpers Jane Cassino, Mary Lois Cooper, Nancy Dampier, Barb Gordon, Jessie McLean, Bev McDonald, Mary McGuigan, Mary Roberts, Marnie Sherritt, Tina Sturgeon, Donna Wakefield and Katie Ungar and to our Wine Stewards Ed Harrison, Don Lowry and Chuck Townsend. A huge thank you to Cindy Thom for creating the divine appetizers and squash soup. Thanks to Rose Geraghty for donating soup from Tim Horton's. Thanks to Nellie Haig, Sheila Novlan and Marilynne Van Buskirk for decorating the club so beautifully for our "Diamond Jubilee" theme. Thanks to Marianne LaRose and Sandy Ronson for selecting a wide variety of great prizes. Thanks to Karen Lowry for serving as Event Photographer and for her tremendous assistance. Thanks to Sherry Chambers for serving as Secretary and to Mo Cloghesy and Fay Weiler for serving as Drawmasters for this event. Many thanks to all LCC staff for helping us to ensure a successful bonspiel.



L-R Don Lowry, Chuck Townsend, Ed Harrison

Bonspiel Convenors were "The Three 'P's": Penny Brown, Pat Bell and Pam Harrison

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT--



It's hard to believe that we are into the final month of the 2011-12 seasons. This is also the final *Rock Talk* report I will be writing as your president, so I have decided to write something a little more reflective, looking back at some of the highlights of the past two seasons, as well as at some of our future plans.

RENOVATION PROJECTS: Certainly one of the main highlights has been the completion of the club house renovations, starting with the locker rooms in the summer of 2009, the upstairs lounge in the summer of 2010, and then the lower lounge this year. Most recently, we have purchased a new computer and desk for the office manager. There are still a few things remaining to be done, once the season is over, and these include replacing the carpet on the front stairs, painting the main lounge area, and replacing the old laminate covering on the table tops in the upstairs lounge. There is also one large and rather expensive project on the "Must-Do" list for this summer, and that is...

A NEW FLAT ROOF: While this is not the kind of glamorous project that members get excited about, it is a very necessary one, as any woman using the upstairs locker room can attest to. The flat roof covering the front section of our facility is starting to leak and must be replaced before further interior damage occurs. We recently submitted a Trillium grant application, requesting funding to help pay for this new roof. Hopefully this application will be approved, but the board feels obliged to go ahead with the project this summer even without a grant.

ANOTHER "WISH LIST" ITEM: Several members have requested that the board consider using some of our Brier funds to purchase cameras and monitors for the arena, so that spectators can see the heads at the far end of the rink. There are a few area clubs that already have these, including Ilderton and Ingersoll, and they are definitely a great feature for anyone trying to follow the progress of a game. No decision has been made yet, but we are in the process of getting cost estimates.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS: While overall membership is down a little, I have been delighted to see the growth of some leagues and the creation of two new ones. The Sunday afternoon UWO Student league is completing its second successful year and the Tuesday Mixed is just completing its first. As the convenor of this new league, I am thrilled that we have been able to maintain membership numbers for the entire season. The feedback I have received has been very positive, so I am hopeful that we be able to fill four, if not five, sheets next season.

At the competitive level, two men's teams, both skipped by Dave Mann, were successful in reaching provincial playdowns, in the Dominion Club Championship in October, and the Fairmont Challenge in January. Hosting the OCA 2012 Junior Zone 16 Playdowns was another highlight of this season, as was our purchase of a new set of composite Lite Rocks for the Little Rocks program. As with most things, the future of our sport rests in the hands of the young. And that brings me to another initiative the board is looking at for next season...

SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS: Following a very successful grade 8 "field trip" to the club last December, we are hoping to promote more such trips by senior elementary students, in particular from the schools in our immediate area. If the enthusiasm shown by the students who participated in last December's "intro to curling" is any indication, then I believe this can be a very positive way to foster greater interest in our sport among young Londoners, which in the long run can only help to encourage the growth of curling in our city.

LEARN TO CURL PROMOTION: With interest in curling being stimulated by the Canadian Championships now taking place, we have decided to extend the special LTC curling promotion until the end of the season. That means that anyone wishing to try curling can pre-register to attend one or two of our regular LTC league sessions at no cost.

FINAL NOTES: It has been a rewarding two years serving as club president and I want to thank you, the membership, for your support. A big thank you as well to all those members (and there a lot of them!) who volunteered in some capacity at the club this season. We couldn't run this place without you. Enjoy your last few weeks of curling!

Hope to see you at this year's AGM on Tuesday, June 12th.

Connie Weir, President

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VOLUNTEERS FOR 2011-12 SEASONS



When compiling a list of club volunteers, it is possible to identify many of them – interim managers, Saturday Clean-ice advisors, Pro Shop sales staff, Convenors of leagues, bonspiels and events, maintenance helpers, those who carry out tasks requiring special skills, board members, committee members.

It is difficult, however, to list all the others who so often offer their help with the little tasks connected with all club activities large and small.

Volunteers truly are at the heart of the club's successful operation.

THANKS TO YOU ALL!!!

Fay Weiler

Gord Sellery	Wendy Foster	Stan Smith	Kevin Bentley
Dan Crandles	Denise Grafton	Paul Ferrie	Mary Lois Cooper
Bonny Morgan	Don Agnew	Mark Flynn	Wes Hull
Mike Rozon	Doug Wilson	Julie Lorenzin	Matt Scott
Laura Rozon	Richard Rodgers	Roger Moyer	Penny Brown
Tom Fejes	Julie Dubeau	Mary Moyer	Tim Lindsay
Bruce Cooper	David Belford	Kevin Bentley	Dave Rush
Mary Lois	Dave Weber	Marc Claveau	Stan Hodge
Cooper	Wendy Esson	John Fraser	Harry Steele
Kirk George	John Turcotte	Heather Greenfield	Sharon Drenth
Bruce Thom	Penny Parker	Dave Beckett	Gwen Crossman
Tracey Church	Krystina Plona	Karen Shearer	Larry Round
Kerry Trayner	Paul Huston	Pat Bell	Bob Davis
Ken Walmsley	George Kirk	John Rudell	Al McLachlan
Paul Roth	Tim Thompson	Steve Howlette	Paul Pergau
Jim Russell	John Turcott	John Richard	Joyce Hetherington
Steve Chown	Andrew Culver	Nancy King	Roger Moyer
Robert Holland	Adrian Brown	Kirk Massey	Fay Weiler
Ron Willson	Anne Gallant	Jennifer Cuddie	Don Dudley
John Richard	Paul Harris	Tony Francolini	Karen Lowry
Pat Bell	Kelly Wludyka	Laura Murphy	Pam Harrison
Gord Lammers	Jinx Weise	Mardi McLachlan	Peter Askey
Adrian Brown	Ron Willson	Robert Holland	Sandy Ronson
Krys Plona	Barry Wade	Michel Pepin	Doug Wilson
David Belford	Terry Moir	Fred Wiesegger	Cam Ghent
Connie Weir	John Crosby	Gord Browne	Jim Lone
Greg Lewis	Rob Parker	Andrew Culver	Jack Nichol
John Crosby	Ron McLellan	Garry Thompson	Peter Jackson
Pat Millar	Willy Weiler	Laura Murphy	Flo Kuchynski
Mary Cole	Dave Peeling	Steve Hobbs	Sue Lawrence
Joan McKinnell	Ken Novlan	Bonny Shawyer	Dan McInnes
Eric Duggan	Al Starratt	Nancy Myers	Teresa Easter
Don Lowry	Dave Mann	Paul Ferrie	David Easter

LONDON CURLING CLUB WELL REPRESENTED IN CITY HIGH SCHOOL FINALS

In the girls final game, Central SS beat out Medway 9 to 4 (shaking after 7). All of the girls on the Central squad are LCC members. They are Jo Francolini, Heather Aipperspach, Erica Howes, Sarah Duplan, Chantalle Cheung, Liz Cole, and Elice Kim. The girls finished the season undefeated and will go on to compete at the WOSSAA playdown on March 6th in St Marys. While Erica and Sarah will not be at Central next year (and will be missed), the remaining girls will remain amongst the favourites next year in London.

In the boys final game, Central SS lost to South 1 to 10 (shaking after 6). The final game was not representative of their typical play; the boys lost to a team they had beaten twice during the season. Save one (Emerson Hill), all the boys on the Central squad are LCC members. The members are Blake Nichols, Michael Cuddy, Alex Schadlinger, Jake Burner, and Kyle Campbell. It was impressive that these boys did so well considering four of these boys were new to curling this year – a testament to how well Blake Nichols and Emerson Hill lead the newbies.

As a final note, the members of these two teams would like to thank the members of LCC for being able to play and spare in the evening leagues. While they may giggle at some of the unorthodox deliveries they see from the 'old folks', they do admit they have benefited greatly from the encouragement they receive, the wide variety of tactics they witness, the extra ice time they get, and the friends they've made.



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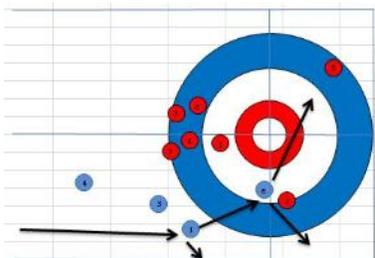


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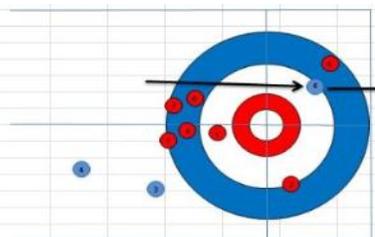
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TEAM MCKINLEY SCORED AN 8-ENDER !!!!!

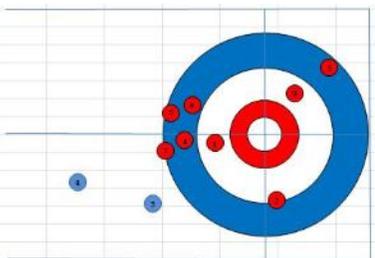
Team McKinley scored an 8-ender during the last end of their A-Flight President's League game on Wed Feb 1, 2012. Bob McKinley threw the stone with wife Leslie Baker in the house. Leslie yelled for sweeping almost immediately upon release and Stan Smith and Steve Hobbs hammered it all the way for a complete team shot to score the 8-ender! Here is how the last two shots unfolded:



It is the last end, and Blue needs to steal 2 to tie. With their last rock, Blue tries to angle-raise their centre blue guard onto the red shot rock but hits the right-hand blue instead and onto their own, pushing it over to the left-hand side of the house.



Red decides to play a board-weight hit (draws were curling 5 feet in this area) and papers by the top red rock which is edge-to-edge with the blue rock.



RED SCORES AN 8-ENDER!

FAMILY DAY - 2012

On Monday, February 20th about 70 individuals participated in the annual London Curling Club "Family Day" event. Approximately 35 members and family and friends arrived at the club for an instructional clinic beginning at 9:30 a.m. A big thank you to Jim Lone and his crew of able coaches and instructors -Peter Askey, Dan McInnes, Cam Ghent, Sandy Ronson, Jim Russell - and other club members who assisted in providing some basic instruction to this very enthusiastic group. Another 35 members and their guests arrived at about 10:30 a.m. to enjoy some quality time together out on the ice. As you can imagine, with 70 individuals in the lounge and on the ice is was a pretty happening place (remember a full draw means there is 48 curlers on the ice - so add at least 5 more teams and you can imagine the crowd that was on hand).

While off the ice, participants enjoyed complimentary coffee and hot chocolate and home made cookies. A special thanks to all the cookie bakers, the majority of whom are members of the Member Services Committee - Wendy Foster, Joan McKinnell, Gwen Crossman, Flo Kuchynski. Thanks also to Mary Hicks for her culinary expertise.

The Family Day event has grown every year I would like to thank all those who participated and assisted in providing this event for our members and their families and friends. If you have any suggestions for how the Members Services Committee can make this event even more successful, I would be pleased to hear from you.

Roger Moyer, Chair Member Services Committee



Busy Family Day Fun!!

Bob Lauckner
Broker

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ADVERTISING STRATEGY---

For a number of years, club members have seen the support of our advertisers through the many options we offer: wall signs, in-ice signage, as well as ads in the Membership Directory and Rock Talk. Our current advertisers are listed on the LCC web site (visit <http://londoncurling.ca/> and hit the sponsor & advertiser tab).

The goal of generating advertising revenue is to cover the cost of our Directory and Rock Talk newsletter and to minimize membership fee increases that result from the annual increases in the costs of running the Club. Most years, we are able to collect roughly \$7,000 to \$10,000.

Advertising clients are managed by a small team of club volunteers, including Stan Hodge, Marnie Dickout, Pat Millar, Dennis Sillett, Harry Steele and Al McLachlan. Much of the effort is focused on the renewal of existing business and following up new leads and inquires.

To retain this revenue stream, we would like to suggest a way that every LCC member can help:

Do you know someone in business? A small business owner? An employee within a larger employer who may have contacts with that company's advertising department?

If you know of a potential client who might choose to advertise with us, please look at the information on our web site – it's all there! Brochures, artwork requirements, pricing schedule, advertising-exposure statistics, etc. Simply mention this to your contact and ask if they would be interested in joining our list of advertisers. If you need assistance with this process, your advertising volunteer team can help. Pass your lead on to one of the team or to the office for follow-up.

London businesses are always looking for new ways to reach potential customers; LCC provides a way to reach a well-defined membership with a diversified demographic at very competitive rates. We have plenty of wall space, along with high impact in-ice ad locations, as well as, Club publications. Think of all the types of businesses that can potentially advertise with LCC: restaurants, tax specialists, accountants, retailers, car dealerships, funeral homes, insurance companies, hotels, etc. The list is long.

Your suggestions will help minimize the effort required to recruit new clients. All you need to do is simply ask your contacts if they would be interested and pass the lead on. Your efforts in this regard will be appreciated by the LCC Advertising Committee and will benefit all Club members.



What's coming up OCA: Team Lawrence with Skip Sue Lawrence, Vice Lisa Flesher, 2nd Deanna Dougan and Lead Roxy Petten competed in the Tim Hortons Trophy event at the Chatham Granite Club February 17 – 19. They won Zone 16B and next compete in the Regionals at the Sun Parlor Curling Club in Leamington March 3 & 4. Go Team Lawrence...we'd like to see you in the Provincials! Also good luck to Teams Lawrence and Rochefort in the upcoming Women's Tankard and Teams Mann and Beckett in the upcoming Mens Silver Tankard. Both of these double team entry events are happening in Sarnia on March 10. And finally our club playdowns for the OCA Dominion Club Championship will be taking place the first week in April. Whoever wins for sure we'll have strong representation to the Zone playdowns in October.

On behalf of the LCC we would like to thank all the teams that represented our club in OCA events this year

Mann & Beckett	Silver Tankard
Lawrence & Rochefort	Women's Tankard
Lawrence	Tim Hortons Trophy
Mann	Fairfield Marriott Challenge (Provincials)
Lindsay	Dominion Tankard
Lawrence	Best Western Intermediate Women (Regionals)
Lone	Tim Hortons Master Men
LeBlanc	Grand Masters
Rochefort	Dominion Women's Club Championship
Mann	Dominion Men's Club Championship (Provincials)
Westaway	Pepsi Junior Men
Francolini	Pepsi Junior Women

We had a great year with much representation and success at Zone, Regional and Provincial levels. Be sure to continue to check www.ontcurl.com to keep informed about what is going on in Ontario from an OCA perspective! You can also always ask one of the following people who help run OCA things in our club: Jennifer Cuddie, Teresa Easter, Doug Petch, Fay Weiler and Paul Pergau.

As this curling season winds down, we'd like to sincerely thank all the league convenors for their support and efforts. Without these Volunteers we'd have a fine club but little organized activity.

There's always room for more volunteers so be sure to let our club office know if you're interested. We need you! Keep monitoring www.londoncurling.ca for news about our club and its many curling leagues



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Curl for a Cause 2012

NEW FORMAT! NEW FUN! NEW SUCCESSES!

On Wednesday, February 15, 2012, 49 curlers took to the ice in mixed teams to compete to get their names on the plaque, and to raise awareness and funds for the Salvation Army London Village Adult Day Program. Neither the women nor the men curlers were as intimidating as the other sex feared, and a new respect grew in the club for the abilities and enthusiasm of our curlers. Everyone liked the format of having the women and men skip an equal number of ends.

In the time off the ice, the curlers went shopping – at the raffle and silent auction tables. Probably the women out-shopped the men, but the men came out winners too. The raffle table with approximately 100 donated items, raised \$490 and the silent auction raised \$255. Marj Dudley, Jean Cameron and Karen Lowry set up the raffle table, and Jean Cameron and Joan Bidinosti sold all those tickets.



The Winners!!

Lunch was good, with lasagna by Lynda Arthur, carrots by Joyce and Caesar salad by Mary Lois. Marylynn Patterson donated the bread, Mary McGuigan donated brownies and Marlene Benny donated the fruit. And people seemed to like the butter tarts too. Thank you to these women, as well as social member Kay Wicks and former member Jessie McLean, who helped serve the meal.

Winners of the bonspiel were skips Paul Pergau and Linda Peeling, leads and seconds Jim Russell and Joanne Diehl. Our very competent Drawmaster was Fay Weiler. The big winner of the day was the Salvation Army Adult Day Program, which received cheques totalling \$1591.24 from London Curling Club. Nancy Johnston, Director of the program, addressed us at lunch, and was thrilled with the amount we raised for a very good cause.

Thank you to Kay Carr, our long-time supporter of this event, and generous donor to the Cause. She, along with husband Ron and daughter Barbara Pfile, joined us for lunch and the afternoon.

Thank you too, to LCC, which donated the ice, the services of bartender Les, and the coffee and cream. The many donations greatly increased our contribution to our chosen Cause.

Convenor – Mary Lois Cooper
Co-convenor – Joyce Hetherington



Kay Carr

THE TEASDALE LEAGUE

The Thursday afternoon senior men's competitive league has completed the regular season and the playoffs will begin on March 1st. The teams that are entered in the playoffs are skipped by Jim Lone, Jim Fitzpatrick, Stan Smith, Ron McLennan, Chuck Townsend and Mike Bancroft. The other six teams will finish the season playing for a consolation prize yet to be determined. The Teasdale Plaque will be presented to the winner at the end of the season on March 29th. A wine draw will be held as well on the last day. Members will be reminded to sign up as teams next September or as singles who wish to be added to shorthanded team. Have a safe and relaxing summer!

Gord Sellery Convenor

COMING THIS FALL....

to a CURLING RINK NEAR YOU!!

As soon as Kevin and crew have the ice ready this fall, look for our first Skills Clinic, Novice in the morning, Intermediate in the afternoon. Non members are welcome. The Skills and Development Committee is offering this Saturday workshop. We'll follow up in a few weeks time, once the season is underway, with a Refresher session on a Saturday morning, dates to be announced. Our plan is to offer several options including a new clinic: *Reading the Ice, Playing the Angles*. If Russ Howard can't make it, we have members who have got the angles all figured out and will offer instruction. Stay tuned for the October Rock Talk.

Joyce Hetherington Skills and Development

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- Microdermabrasion
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- Facials with Facial Lift
- Cosmetic Teeth Whitening Treatments

Toasting Moments

Event Management

Joan McKinnell
Komoka, On
tel. 519-476-2487
Email: jomckin@sympatico.ca

NEWS FROM THE WOMENS' DAYTIME SECTION--

SKINS GAME: Marj Dudley - Convenor Fay Weiler - co-convenor
 On Thurs. Feb. 9 the WDS had the second of two Skins Games this year. 17 curlers showed up, with the "big money winners" the team of Sylvia Leuszler, Karen Shearer, Cathy Townsend and Marnie Sherritt. Scoring was done by Fay Weiler and Linda Karl. Lunch was Stone Soup, with the curlers' choice of chicken- based

MARSHALL'S PASTA MILL & BAKERY: Joan Bidinoski (Convenor), Sandy Ronson (co-convenor)

This Thursday morning seven week event had ten rinks competing for the trophy. The winning team was Shirley Vaile (skip) with Sue Lundy, Donna Millar and Cheryl Adams. Second place went to Joan Dickie, Joyce Hetherington, Carole Darowski and Katie Ungar. Third place went to Dot MacRae, Jan Murray, Linda Bailey and Darlene Tenhaaf.

All winners won gift certificates from the sponsor – Marshall's Pasta Mill.

Our sponsor provided a generous lunch of pasta, salads and buns " Enough to feed a football team" said Blake Marshall. He was right. Cookies were by Sharon. Special thanks to Sandy Ronson and helpers Penny Brown, Linda Karl and Joyce Hetherington.

UP-COMING EVENTS

Sheila Betkus 2 Day Bonspiel - March 5, 6
 Closing Meeting - April 3

LOST AND FOUND

We have a lot of items in our Lost & Found boxes downstairs in the storage area...gloves, shoes (curling and casual) clothing, water bottles, jackets, etc.

If you have been missing some item(s), please check out the boxes. Anything left over at the end of the season will be thrown out or sent to the numerous missions who might make use of them.

Management

THURSDAY NIGHT BUSINESS

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

As convenors, we would like to thank all the ladies in our league for an enjoyable curling season. On behalf of all our members, we would also like to express our appreciation to all the spares that have helped us out throughout the year.

We are looking forward to our final banquet on Thursday, April 5th where the winner of 'A' flight will be honoured with the league trophy and prizes. We will also acknowledge the winner of 'B' flight. Remember, everyone else was in contention for a prize of unbelievable value determined by our gathering of secret points during our round robin games. All spares are invited to join us at our banquet.

A team has stepped forward to convene our league for next season. Our thanks go out to Pat Downing, Rose Geraghty, Valerie Clark and Wendy Sinclair.

We have been very fortunate to have Gay Lea offer to sponsor our Business Women's Bonspiel for 2013. There is seed money ready for next year's organizing committee. Convenors are needed for this bonspiel. Please consider taking this on so that we can keep this bonspiel going. Thank you to this year's convenors, Nancy Myers, Marnie Dickout and Rose Kuchynski for setting up this sponsorship, making the work for next year's convenors that much easier. Mark Saturday, January 26th, 2013 on your calendar and join us for the Business Women's Bonspiel next year.

Thanks for a great season!

Heather Greenfield, Mary Moyer, Candis MacDougall, Mary Hicks

END OF SEASON

Please remember to remove all of your belongings and the lock from your lockers at the end of this season. The lockers will be cleaned before the 2012-13 season begins.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Management



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Mike Williams
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"SPIRIT OF CURLING AWARD"

Annually, a "Spirit of Curling" award is presented to one man and one woman for good sportsmanship and skill. The women's award is given in memory of Anne Shaw. The men's award was donated by Ken Koprowski.

All active members of the London Curling Club, with the exception of the Board of Directors, are eligible for this award. The deadline for nominations is prior to the closing of the curling year (the deadline for 2012 is Friday, March 30th) and the awards are presented at the Annual General Meeting. A person may be recognized with this award only once.

All active members of the London Curling Club are eligible to submit a nomination - limited to one nomination for a man and one nomination for a woman. Nominations forms are available at the office or at the bar. Completed nominations forms are to be placed in the folder at the bar.

After careful deliberation, recipients will be determined by the Board of Directors by consideration of the following philosophy:

While the main object of a game of curling is to determine the relative skills of the players, the spirit of the game demands good sportsmanship, honourable conduct, and one who contributes to the everyone's enjoyment of the sport. Good luck to all the nominees - to be nominated for this award by your peers is indeed an honour in itself.

Ken Koprowski, a member of the London Curling Club until 1990, proposed that a "President's Award" be established, to be presented annually, to a male curler who best demonstrated sportsmanship, camaraderie, positive attitude, and genuine love for the game of curling. Ken believed those traits came from within a person - trophies do not generate them - you either have them or you don't. The silver tray, donated by Ken, has been presented since 1981 to recognize the male curler who best demonstrates the "spirit of curling" at the London Curling Club.

Anne Shaw, in whose memory the women's "Spirit of Curling Award" was established, loved curling. She loved the competition, she loved the challenge, she loved the strategy, and she loved to win. But she loved the people, the curlers, her team mates and her competitors even more. Anne loved people, and she demonstrated it with every kind of behaviour, from outrageous to bizarre, from funny to close to serious and from clown to leader - but always a friend. Anne loved the "spirit of curling", only for her it was the "spirit of curlers" she loved best. A silver trophy has been presented in Anne's memory to the woman who best exemplifies the "Spirit of Curling" at the London Curling Club since 1991.

Roger Moyer, Chair Member Services Committee

My last Rock Talk as your Editor!!

After 6 years it is time to pass this on to someone else.
Thanks to everybody for all your input over the years!!

Karen Lowry

PRO SHOPPE REPORT

As the curling season winds down, the Pro Shoppe is promoting a year-end sale of one-of-a-kind shoes at drastically reduced prices.

Ladies

G40 – 1 pr. Size 7 now \$99
GL289 Allegro – 1 pr. 6 ½ & 1 pr. 7 ½ - now \$69
GL293 Allegro – 1 pr 7, 1 pr 8 & 2 pr 8 ½ - now \$89

Men

GL644 Summit – 1 pr 8 ½, 1 pr 9 ½ & 1 pr 11 ½ - now \$89
CS3000 – 1 pr size 9 - now \$99
G40 - 1 pr size 9 & 1 pr size 10 - now \$99

These shoes are on display in the showcase.

As this will be my last year as your Pro Shoppe mgr. I would like to thank several. Many thanks to Doug Petch, Barb Colbourn, the many interim managers, the Pro Shoppe Sales Associates and you the members of The London Curling Club.

Your loyalty to the Pro Shoppe and your cooperation with me in particular has been most appreciated. I could not have done it without you.

Bob Davis

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS/ SHRINE SPIEL IN ST THOMAS

Garry Thompson's team which consisted of Ron McLennan (skip), Bob Kerwin (vice on Friday) and Bruce Cooper (vice on Saturday), Bob Wakefield (second) and John Rudell (lead), played in the Knights of Columbus/Shrine Spiel in St Thomas on Friday and Saturday January 27th and 28th, 2012.

The team had a perfect record of wins together and managed to win the second draw with a point total of 49¼. This score was bettered only by the winners of the first draw who amassed a score of 50½ points. We enjoyed ourselves thoroughly and almost needed to shore up the springs in the car to transport the 40lbs of peameal bacon which the team won. It was a great week-end of curling all round for us.

Thanks Garry for making it possible for the five of us to have this experience.

John Rudell



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THE MILLER REPORT.....

The Scotties is over and the Brier is about to begin. Baseballs spring training is well under way and basketballs March Madness is nearly here. The Masters is around the (amen) corner and the sun is shining warmer and longer. Spring is in the air and so that must make it playoff time in the Miller Curling League at the London Curling Club.

The defending champions have been eliminated therefore there will be a new sheriff in town. Over the remaining five weeks of curling the competitive juices will flow among the six teams that will be trying to establish themselves as the new Men's Club Champions of the London Curling Club. The combatants are the teams skipped by Tim Lindsay, Dave Beckett, Phil Williams, Ted Ellwood, Jack McLaren and Stan Smith. This will make for an interesting and entertaining final month at the London Curling Club. The rest of the league will play in various division championships. Prizes will be awarded at the conclusion of the playoffs on Monday April 2.

Looking ahead to the 2012-2013 season, Bruce and Dave will again volunteer to be the Miller League convenors. We are entertaining some new ideas moving into the new season. We will share these ideas in the form of a questionnaire/survey with the Miller membership over the next few weeks. Feedback will be important as we try to improve your Monday night curling experience in the Miller League.

Members from our league regularly compete in O.C.A. events. Congratulations goes out to Ted Smith. Ted played in the Mens Senior Provincial Championship with his teammates from the St. Thomas Curling Club (Jim Lyle, Ken Baute and Peter Hayman). The team managed to make it to the semi-final but came up a little short. Ted Ellwood will be competing in the Mens Provincial Intermediate Championship with his teammates from the Chatham Curling Club. Play goes from March 7-10. The eight man team of Greg Lewis, Paul Reily, Tom Zavitz, Dave Beckett, Bruce Thom, Shawn Quigg, Kirk Massey and Dave Mann will compete in the Silver Tankard at the Sarnia Curling Club On March 10-11.

In closing the Miller league would like to thank Karen Lowry for her effort and commitment as editor to the successful production of the monthly Rock Talk. This is Karen's final copy. We all enjoy reading the Rock Talk and without volunteers such as Karen, this would be impossible.

Good luck and good curling to all. Bruce Thom & Dave Mann

TOO LATE FOR ROCK TALK!!!

Update: Hot off the wire. The Central SS Girls team won each of their three games at WOSSA and will be advancing on to OFSSA (March 21-25), where they will compete with the best high school teams from the province. WOSSA was held in St Mary's on March 7. The Central SS team is made up of five LCC members – Heather Aipperspach, Chantalle Cheung, Sarah Duplan, Erica Howes, Jo Francolini – and is coached by Tony Francolini (under the watchful eye of Jennifer Cuddie).

CONGRATULATIONS GIRLS!!!

CLUB COACHING: A PRETTY GOOD DEAL

It costs a participant about \$175.00 to enroll in the weekend clinic to become a certified OCA Club Coach. The good news is that our Executive gladly sponsors members interested in the course and willing to give back to our Club some instruction during the season. With the intention of increasing the knowledge and skill of our own members and introducing the game to novices and outsiders, we provide Club Coaches. This past year we have taught elementary and secondary school classes, renters and wannabe curlers who are looking for a winter sport. We give first priority to our own members and offered many clinics throughout the season.

We still need more Club Coaches. Look for the dates and locations of these courses in October Rock Talk or check out the OCA website.

Joyce Hetherington

Skills and Development.