

# ROCK TALK



Whitby Curling Club Newsletter

February 2016

## Message from the President!

It is hard to believe we are preparing for the 3<sup>rd</sup> draw in most leagues and that the season is winding down. Clearly spring is on the way, regardless of Warton Willy, because *Roll Up The Rim* is back at Tim Hortons!

So far, this year has proved to be fairly uneventful with ice related issues, hopefully I haven't just jinxed us! A lot of that can be attributed to our new equipment upgrades. While we were hoping to have some great news from Trillium regarding our grant submission for some of our other tasks, we are disappointed in that regard; however plan to reapply in March.

We have had another great year of competitive curling with teams advancing to Regions and Provincials. It is always exciting to have teams compete for a banner and regardless of the outcome, we are always proud to have them represent us! Thank you!

For those of us who stay within the club, play-off season and league closings are busy being planned! Good luck to all of you and have fun as we wrap up another great season. Information regarding next season membership rates etc. will be communicated shortly and we look forward to seeing you all back on the ice next season.

If you still have volunteer hours to finish off, there are still many tasks to be done. Connect with your league representatives, bonspiel coordinators or the office to find out what you can do!

Thank you all for a great season so far. Should you have any questions, comments or ideas, please feel free to contact me!

Tracey Macaulay

President

**Do you still have volunteer hours to earn? There are still lots of opportunities to get your volunteer hours. Help with a bonspiel or bake for an event. Are you handy? Speak to our Property and Ice Director (Ross Weldon) for ways to help around the club!**



**Did you volunteer at the Grand Slam in the fall? Those hours count towards your WCC Volunteer hours! Complete the form and put it (alphabetically please) in the bright green binder in front of the Club office!**



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# 53th Annual Attersley Cash Bonspiel

On Wed Dec 2, 2015, the WCC Ladies Section hosted the 53<sup>rd</sup> annual Attersley cash bonspiel. Twenty two teams from 13 different clubs enjoyed a great day of curling, camaraderie and great food.

Kudos to all who helped make this a great day. A very special thank you goes to the committee members for all their hard work before and during the day of the spiel. Thank you Madeleine Riley, Lynda Muschett, Joan Ellis, Gayle Jackson, Mary Parks, Shirley O'Mara, Lorna Ravary, and Barb Hiemstra. Thank you to all the Whitby Curling Club ladies who decorated the club – the Christmas trees were gorgeous as usual. Thank you to all the ladies who helped us throughout the day of the spiel.



The WCC Ladies are very thankful for the support of our sponsor, Mike Mackey of Attersley Tire Services. Mike could not join us that evening, however, his generosity was acknowledged by all participants. Thank you Mike, we look forward to seeing you next year.

This spiel is also fortunate to have the backing of other individuals and organizations, like Sharon Munroe (past member), Liz and Don Mitchell, and Rose Givelas of State Farm – thank you for your contributions.



Thank you to Jamie, Dave, Angela and Glenn for great ice, office support and excellent bar service. Thank you to Winston Muschett and Ian Jackson who joined us to tabulate the scores. Thank you to Angel's catering for the wonderful turkey meal at lunch. Thank goodness the desserts were held off until after the curling. Angele, compliments to you and your crew on your wonderful food and service.

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The results of the spiel are as follows:

**Trophy Winner:** Gloria Ryan (skip), Lisa Stewart, Lois Dwyer, Kym Imrie - Whitby CC/ Annandale CC

**8:45am Draw**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Debbie Schultz (skip), Cathy Miller, Sandy Mittelstaedt, Pat McLean – Whitby CC

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Pam McPhail (skip), Doris Arseneau, Alicia Coventry, Lenore Coulson – Oshawa CC

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Margaret Chew (skip), Liz Winters, Dale McLaughlin, Ann Marie Fitzpatrick, Debbie Addie–Whitby CC

One Game High: Christine Hughes (skip), Linda Epping, Melanie Downs, Val Harlow – Tam Heather CC

**11:45am Draw**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Gloria Ryan (skip), Lisa Stewart, Lois Dwyer, Kym Imrie - Whitby CC/ Annandale CC

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Marilyn Wood (skip), Laura Toms, Kathy Reid, Julie Ferguson – Ennismore CC

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Jo Itenson (skip), Janet Boychuk, Donna Anderson, Cindy Ferrer - Annandale CC

One Game High: Donna Henderson (skip), Sandi MacDonald, Ariane Macdonald, Jennifer Reggars –West Northumberland CC



**Trophy Winners were Gloria Ryan (skip), Lisa Stewart,, Lois Dwyer, Kym Imrie - Whitby CC/ Annandale CC**

A business card for Mary Noakes. The card features a portrait of Mary Noakes on the left. The text on the right reads: "ESTABLISHING ROOTS... for EVERY SEASON of LIFE", "Mary Noakes", "SALES REPRESENTATIVE", "RE/MAX", "RE/MAX JAZZ INC. BROKERAGE", "905-728-1600", "1-888-732-1600", "teamnoakes@sympatico.ca", and "www.teamnoakes.homesandland.com".



**1<sup>st</sup> Draw 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winners: Margaret Chew (skip), Liz Winters, Ann Marie Fitzpatrick, Dale McLaughlin, Debbie Addie**

Whitby CC



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## From the ice

Many may not know what goes on every day to get your ice ready so I'll give a rundown of the daily routine!

First the day starts between 6-7 am with a quick clean up, vacuum, empty garbage's, fill cups etc. Then we drizzle some water in all the scratches, knee marks and divots in the ice, while waiting on those to freeze the rocks get moved and we scrape under them, clean up the snow, pebble it and put the rocks back. Now the scraper goes around every sheet 6-10 times up and back per ice, then snow pick up, then pebble and most days game 1 starts at 10 am. After that game a speedy mop, pebble, and nip before game 2 begins at 1! By 3 pm it's time for another scrape, the machine does another 4-8 passes on every sheet followed by snow pick up, pebble and nip, then the 3<sup>rd</sup> draw begins about 4:30; followed by another mop, pebble and nip at 7 and depending on the day again at 9pm. Most days we're getting about 200 people on the ice all day long, 7 days a week!

Please everyone take a look inside your grippers, you'll find them filled with little lint bits take a second and please brush or wash them out, it will avoid tracking them out on the ice where you soon find them under your rocks and on your broom heads. Do your part to help keep the ice clean and in excellent playing condition.

Until next month, good curling

## Friday 4:30 Mixed Curling

Our first draw was finished December 11th.

The top 3 teams were:

1st - Ian & Gayle Jackson, Ray & Betty O'Toole

2nd - Bob & Liz Winters, Don & Hope Cranston

3rd - Ray & Jackie Gorecki, Lorna Ravary & Winston Dixon

We are currently playing our 2nd draw which concludes on February 19th with pizza at 7 pm.

Our 3rd draw starts on February 26th & concludes on April 15th.

## Valentine's Day

The club's Valentine dinner was on February 12th in the Bradley Room at 7 pm. It was a "Sweetheart" of a deal at \$18.50 which includes tax & gratuity. Friday night dinners are open to all club members so join us next Friday.



Your's in curling - Winston & Lorraine Dixon, Kent & Connie Young & Dave & Mary Parks

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# Little Rocks!

## Hit, Draw & Tap

The OCA's first year of the Hit, Draw, Tap Championship was enjoyed by the Little Rocks members of the WCC.

Charlie in the 6-8 years age group, and Isabelle in the 11-13 years age group both placed in the second place group for the Zones competition and will be receiving Silver Medals.

Daniel in the 9-10 years age group placed in the first place group and went the Provincial Competition in Brantford on February 6th to represent the WCC. He was one of sixteen qualifiers from around the province. Daniel had a great showing finishing just off the podium, fourth overall at the Provincial.

Congratulations to Daniel and all WCC Little Rock members that competed!

## YOUTH CURLING

In OCA Juniors, Team Snelgrove represented WCC on the women's side, while Team Stoner entered on the men's. Both teams advanced to Regions and had good showings. Team Stoner lost the A & B side final which is not bad for a first year Junior team!

Three teams entered OCA Bantams, Teams Snelgrove & Meadows on the girls side, with Team MacKay on the boys. Teams Snelgrove and MacKay advanced to regions. Team Snelgrove advanced to provincials, going 3-0. Team MacKay had a 2-2 record, losing out in both the A & B finals.

WCC was represented by Team Snelgrove in the Girls Bantam Provincials. They had a wonderful event and finished 4<sup>th</sup> with a 4-3 record. We also should acknowledge the other WCC bantam curlers who were at provincials.

Colin Schnurr (Team Leung) finished 2<sup>nd</sup> with a 4-3 record on the boys side. Ryan and Scott Mitchell (Team Enman) finished 4<sup>th</sup> with a 4-3 record.

Congratulations to all our kids! And a big shout out to all the coaches and parents who supported their efforts!

## 25th Annual Lloyd Sonley

### Little Rocks Bonspiel

On November 28, 2015 Whitby Curling Club hosted the 25th Annual Lloyd Sonley Little Rocks Bonspiel.

It was a great success. Twelve teams from across Southern Ontario participated.

George and Anne Sonley were presented with a plaque to show our appreciation for their long-term support of the Little Rocks Bonspiel.



# LADIES BEST DAY BONSPIEL

On Monday January 25th, the Ladies' section held their annual Best Day Bonspiel. We are fortunate to have the continued generous support of Hazel Best's family. Hazel was a long time Whitby Curling Club member and past president of the Ladies section.



Our theme for the day was 'Life's a Beach'. Each team was given a name related to the theme, such as Bathing Beauties, Bahama Mamas, Caribbean Queens. The ladies displayed their team finery during lunch and after their final game of the day.

Our format for the day was four ends of curling, the teams moved left or right to meet another team for the next 4 ends. Your opponents were not based on points, just on where they happened to fall in the rotation.

We had "lifeguards" on hand in case the ladies ran into trouble and also doubled as our scorekeepers. Thanks to George and Bill.



On hand to present the trophy were three generations of Hazel's family, her daughter, granddaughter and great granddaughters.

**Our trophy winner was the 'Lifesavers'.**

**Anne Sonley  
Sandra Gough  
Heather Muirhead  
Judy Joel**

Thank you to all the ladies who helped make the day a success!

# SILENT AUCTION

The Whitby Curling Club will be holding its annual Silent Auction during the week of February 29th to March 4th, with the auction closing the evening of **Friday, March 4th!**

Mark March 4th in your calendars! **EVERYONE** - all members, family and friends are invited to join us that evening! It's a fun evening used to raise funds for important projects around our Club.

In past years members have donated some great items and services. Some examples of donation items are:

- Donating your time for something special—baking, house cleaning, babysitting, a dinner for 6, sausage making, wood working, grass cutting etc...
- Gift Certificates—sporting events, theatres, restaurants, appliances, carpet cleaning
- Beer, wines, chocolates, gift baskets, golf equipment and clothing, fire hydrants, stop lights, crazy throw blankets, scarves, purses
- A cottage weekend, a pool party, a special car for a day

***Really any item you can donate will be greatly appreciated! Be creative!***

Whitby Curling Club will again be offering the 'coveted' parking spots and curling rock handle engraving for auction this year.

Please drop your donated items/services to the Curling Club between Monday, February 1st and Sunday, February 28th. Items will be setup the evening of February 28th for display throughout the week in the Club lounge. New items can also be added as the week leading into the event goes on. On the Friday the auction will close over the course of the evening with randomly selected items being closed for bidding and taken off the table.

The silent auction has been a great fundraiser of our Club, raising upwards of \$7000 in past years!! We're looking forward to this years turn out! Remember all proceeds go towards projects around the Club and are essential to sustaining and improving our Club. It's a win-win, WCC benefits and so do you with some fabulous auction items!

We are looking for volunteers to help run the event; help during the auction on the evening of March 4th and setting up the auction tables and items collected during the evening of February 28th. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Mandy Bennett at [m2benett@outlook.com](mailto:m2benett@outlook.com). It's a great way to get your volunteer hours finished up.



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# MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER!

Things are running smoothly as we enter the last third of the season! I've enjoyed getting to know more of the members and how the leagues and events are run. I've even gotten on the ice myself a couple of times! (Thanks Coach Dave and Coach Melissa!)

A mail box which locks was installed outside the office door so you can leave forms and payments with confidence when the office is closed.

Don't forget to complete your volunteer hours sheets! The binder is located on the counter under the bulletin board.

I want to thank the bonspiel organizers for the consistent communication with me about their events so my staff and I can be as prepared as possible for each event! It really helps alleviate any preventable stresses on the day of the event.

We have many school curling teams using our ice for their practice during their short curling season but its great seeing kids fall in love with the sport and improve their skills.

Don't forget to purchase your Love of Curling Calendar and your Gold and Leisure Savings book - both of which have been successful fundraisers for the club in the past!

Good luck to everyone during playoff season!



## From the Pro Shop

I had an exciting visit from my local Olson rep and the owners of the company, they were giving a sneak peek of some new shoes coming next year! There is a great cross trainer looking model that I am very excited about. With that news it means I will be clearing out old Olson stock soon. So either come see what you can get at a great clear out price or wait until the new stuff comes next year. Watch around the club for that sale soon!



What's your game plan? I can help with your goals on and off the ice. Let's talk about **Money for Life**.



**Ben Aldridge**

905-616-3515

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# Curling Development

This season is well underway with a number of curlers from all leagues participating in our clinics on delivery, strategy and sweeping. Future clinics will be held on the following dates, if you are interested in attending:

Wednesday Feb 24<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 to 10 pm

Wednesday Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> – 1:30 to 3 pm

Wednesday Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8:30 to 10 pm

Saturday Mar 6<sup>th</sup> – 9 am to noon

Signup sheets are on the bulletin board in the lounge or you can register on the club website.

Sweeping is a hot topic this year with certain broom fabrics and now hair brooms being banned from competitive play. Also controversial is whether directional sweeping (one sweeper only) has an impact on shot making. Whatever you believe, your sweeping is only as good as your technique and your broom.

For those of you using our club brooms, remember that these are 'starter brooms'. They are great for learning the basics but due to their fixed head design, it is difficult to put full pressure on the broom head. The following pictures of Nolan Thiessen demonstrate the difference in the amount of pressure on the broom head using a fixed head vs. a competition head broom. In both pictures, Nolan's line of sight is over the broom head however in the second picture, much more of his body weight is over the broom head. This is due to the ability to change the broom handle to a more upright position.



The other factor that comes into play with effective sweeping is the condition of your broom head. If it is dirty, it will not be effective....period. This is why we have brushes at each end of the sheet. After sweeping, you should give your broom head a quick brushing over the garbage can. This helps to keep our ice clean and makes your sweeping more effective. If you have been using the same broom head for a couple of seasons, it is definitely time to invest \$20 – 30 in a new one!

For more pointers on sweeping, come on out to one of our clinics. If you are interested in checking out different brooms, please talk to our pro-shop staff.

As always, Good Curling!

Sarah Gray

Director, Curling Development



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# My First Trip to the Canadian Juniors

“Dramatically Different” Stratford, Ontario hosted the Canadian Junior Curling Championships in January. The new Rotary Sports Complex is terrific. Fans not in the stands can stroll the upper mezzanine, and follow the action on two separate rinks. This was the first Junior Championships held on arena ice. Ten perfect sheets!

BC fans were the loudest. Strange for a bunch of Sushi aficionados. They had lots to cheer about. The BC gals made the finals. Their male counterparts made the semis. Close behind in the noise department were the great fans from Manitoba. The Dunstone rink brought home a 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive Men’s title to the Buffalo Province.

Best-dressed were the Nova Scotia gang. Hard to miss, with their blue-painted noses and bright-yellow sou’westers. The Bluenosers cheered, as Mary Fay’s rink netted a National Ladies title for the Mayfair Club in Halifax. Could Ms. Fay be the next Colleen Jones?

Hilarious were the home-made moose calls of the Northern Ontario fans. Ranch-hands from the Alberta and Saskatchewan rinks were on stand-by, lest some besotted bush-bovines answered the calls!

My son Frank passed on pulling pints at the Boars’ Head in downtown Stratford, to see live championship curling for the first time. We were joined by his lovely local lady-friend, Nadine. We were moved by the colour and pageantry. Gave us a chill when the teams were piped in for the playoff games. Can only guess at the emotions felt by the young curlers. Imagine being in a National final with everyone back home watching on TV!

End 6 of the Men’s final was heart-wrenching for Northern Ontario. Down by 4 rocks after 5, Tanner Horgan had to draw against 3 Manitoba counters. The arena went dead quiet, as the skip from Sudbury set alone in the hack.

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We shared Tanners’ pain when he came up short. There will be National hardware in Tanners’ trophy case before he hangs em’ up.

We especially enjoyed seeing the teams from Nunavut. Raised a pint for Arthur Siksiks’ team from Rankin Inlet, and for Sadie Pinksens’ rink from Iqaluit. Good on the Egg Farmers of Ontario for sponsoring this intense, heart-warming event. The Yukon team toured a local egg farm. The Host Sponsor hopes to see egg production north of 60 in the near future!

Good too, for the 200 volunteers from Stratford Country Club. Met Rob Douglas, Andy Grays’ counterpart on the Novice side of things in Stratford. Nadine is ready to give curling a go. Rob will try to nudge Frank off the fence. Takes a while before one glides out of the hack like Ernie Richardson, Frankie!

Prior to joining Whitby CC, I had only curled once. It was 1980. Worked for Underwood McLellan, at 2310 Arlington Avenue, in Saskatoon. Next address to the north is the Nutana Curling Club. Rick Folk won the Brier for Saskatchewan out of Nutana CC in 1980. Went on to win the World Championship. Lovely Stephanie Lawton curls there now. Her pre-game yoga moves are killer!

Back to my first curling game. Company spiel. Hogged my first rock. Got splayed-out like a team-roped steer. A sharp, shiny, black hoof appeared menacingly beside my head. I looked up. It was Bambi’s Mom; said I was showing-up her son....

Author: Straight Dave Bond

# BRING ON THE CLOSING!

Winter may have forgotten to stop by this year, but that hasn't slowed down Mixed Curling.

Our second draw has just finished and we're shuffling up the players to create teams for the third and final draw. We successfully saw the Friday overflow of curlers onto Wednesday night this past draw and this has been well received. Some teams are even using Wednesday to play a Friday game that they could not make. We want everyone to get their ice time they signed up for, and it's wonderful to see the popularity of Friday night curling continue in this way.

Whitby Curling Club's biggest event – the Mixed Closing, is coming up on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is "Rock and Roll". Don't feel that you need to honour the 50's – any era of music is fine. Just bring your best persona and dress-up, let go, and have a great time. The Mixed final day of curling includes a piper in full regalia, top notch curling to crown the winning team, a delicious dinner, games, dancing and much more. Keep an eye out for the ticket sales notice and visit the Bar to secure your spot. This is a great way to wrap up the season.

At the 2007 Tim Horton's Brier, a member of the Prime Minister's security detail commented:

*"They told us to watch out for odd people when he got here. The first guy I saw was wearing a gopher on his head. Where do you start?"*

*Bring on the Closing!*



## **Business Ladies Loonie Auction Raise money for Grandview**

The Business Ladies had their annual Christmas Dinner and Loonie Auction on December 15th. Each team brings an item that is raffled off in the loonie auction. This auction makes for a fun way to spend our evening, but also makes a positive impact on our local community.

This year we were able to raise five hundred dollars which we donated to Grandview Kids. Thank you to Corrie a member of our Tuesday Night league for arranging the donation as well as the auction!

Great to see the smiling faces of Grandview Kid Molly and the McPhedran Family!

