

March 2009

Edition 13



www.gravenhurstcurlingclub.com

HOG LINE Newsletter

Club News

FROM THE BOARD

The Board has had another challenging year. We have tried very hard to come up with ideas to help pay down our deficit.

- The attendance at our spiels has been down from previous years and as result our profits are affected.
 - We have put up notices about having your names put on the curling rocks and have examples on display near the office. A form will be provided for you to fill out your request.
 - We ran a workshop hoping members would come with suggestions and ideas, and also provided questionnaires for those who could not attend the meeting. The attendance at the meeting and questionnaires returned was very discouraging. Gord Durnan is in the process of analysing the responses that we received.
 - We are now in the process of putting an application together so we can apply for a Trillium Grant to bring our club up to codes required for the building.
- A small percentage of our members are carrying our club and if we are to continue in the years to come, more people need to step-up and help our club be the best in the area. To become a Board Member is very simple. We need energetic people to contact a present member and express their desire to join the Board. See how rewarding the experience can be! *Walt Smith*

Curler of the Month and "Snowflake Queen"

Nick Name:	None
Occupation:	Retired
Pets:	None, except Glenn!
Favourite Dish:	Pad Thai
Favourite Music:	Classics
Favourite Place:	Cottage - at Lost Channel
Hobbies:	Curling, quilting, hand crafts, gardening, boating, ATV-ing

How did you become a curler?

In High school on arena ice!

What do you like best about curling?

Fellowship

What could be improved?

More laughter!!

What else would you like to add?

I love living in Muskoka –the people are great!!



Your decorative snowflakes were beautiful. How did you get the idea to make them?

The theme was "Winter Wonderland". What could be better than snowflakes?

How many did you make and how long did it take you?

There are 832. I made 20 every day for half an hour. I had little help from my granddaughter too.

Ed: We all loved these beautiful decorations. Thank you for your extraordinary contribution. We hope they will be safely stored for future use!

Committee News

BUILDING AND ICE

The curling season is now into the third draw phase and we have faced some new challenges this past month. We had a failure in our ice plant which was costly to repair, but we managed to lose only a little ice time. Thanks go out to Fraser Donaldson of Camdon Electric for his part in the emergency repairs performed to get the plant back in operation. We also had a failure in our main floor furnace which has now been repaired. These failures seem to be conflicting! First we can't keep the ice cold enough, then we can't keep the building hot enough. Hopefully for the remainder of the curling season will achieve the right balance of Cold and Hot!

Good Curling!

Bill Collins

TREASURER

Fact\$ and Figure\$ for the Gravenhurst Curling Club

Last month we looked at some of the operating costs of the Gravenhurst Curling Club. This month I will give you some data regarding our sources of income. While this is not a complete listing of the income generated over the course of a fiscal year, these are the main sources:

Memberships	50%
Bar	20%
Bonspiels	9%
Summer Bonspiel	8%

This year our membership has declined, leading to decreased membership revenues. Remember we pay Ontario Curling Association fees and GST out of the membership fees that you pay. Anyone who has been involved with bonspiels this year knows that participation has been down, and two bonspiels had only one draw. Plans are going ahead for the Summer Bonspiel, but we still need a number of people to take on organizational responsibilities as well as people to work at the Bonspiel.

It is easy to see from our expense figures shown last month and the decreasing income that we need to boost membership, re-evaluate Bonspiels and explore new sources of income to keep our club financially healthy. The Board members of the Gravenhurst Curling Club are working hard to keep membership fee increases to a minimum but they need input and assistance from all curlers in exploring ways to increase our membership numbers and our sources of income.

I'm at the Club frequently and there is at least one Board member at the Club every day. Take a few moments to talk to them, share your ideas and most importantly tell them how you can help the club.

Rick McGuire



Committee News

BONSPIELS

The Curling Club has been busy during February with bonspiels and rentals.

The month started off with the Men's **Home Building Spiel** with a total of 20 teams taking part. Thanks to Conveners Mickey Bonner and Barry Brock for taking on the organizing of this event. It was their first time and they did a terrific job. Thanks also to the main sponsor Bob Collins, owner of Home Care Building.

The bonspiel brought in approximately \$1600 profit for the club.

Sat. February 7th was the day for the **Special Olympics Bonspiel**. Many thanks to Gord Maunder for organizing this event and also to all those club members who came out and assisted that day. Teams came from as far away as Owen Sound, and a local team was the overall winner.

The **"Winter Blahs" Fun spiel** was held on February 14th and once again was a fun-filled day for all those who took part. Thanks to Joyce Partridge and Marg Belleau for their work in organizing this event. This spiel is known for the great food that everyone enjoys, prepared by Master Chef Gérard Poupée. I'm sure Sally keeps him in line in the kitchen as well. Thanks to all the others who helped as well. A profit of \$1282 was handed over to the club from that day.

On Saturday February 21st the club was rented and for the third time the **Gair family** held a fun bonspiel with everyone enjoying a great day. The club realizes substantial revenue from events like this. Similar events in March, the **Rolfe Family Day** and the **Ratcliff Bonspiel** are also big financial boosts for the club.

Don't forget the **closing mixed spiel "The Home Hardware"**, March 28th and 29th.

At press time there are still openings for 5 teams. This is a great weekend to wrap up the curling season and have a lot of fun. See the bulletin board for info and a sign-up sheet.

Also, don't forget the **Summer Spiel**. Although **July 16th, 17th and 18th** seems a long time away, it is important to mark on the calendar. A major change this year sees the Club executive taking over responsibility for organizing this event. Many thanks to all those who have helped in the past and of course we ask for your continued support again this year. **Please volunteer** for a short period of time during the weekend of this event. It is an important fundraiser for the club. Contact a board member and offer your services for a time slot. *Doug Hanna*

TV DRAW

The deadline for the sale of tickets for the TV draw is approaching. If you haven't picked up your envelope, please do so. This is a fundraiser for Junior curling and your support is appreciated.

Please return envelopes and money as soon as possible to Laurie at the bar, Joyce Collins or Bill Kennedy. Thank you! *Joyce Collins*



CURLING RESULTS

Winners of the Ladies' 2nd Draw

First Place: Skip Gail Redpath, Vice Connie Laycock, Second Diana Thompson, Lead Julie Washburn

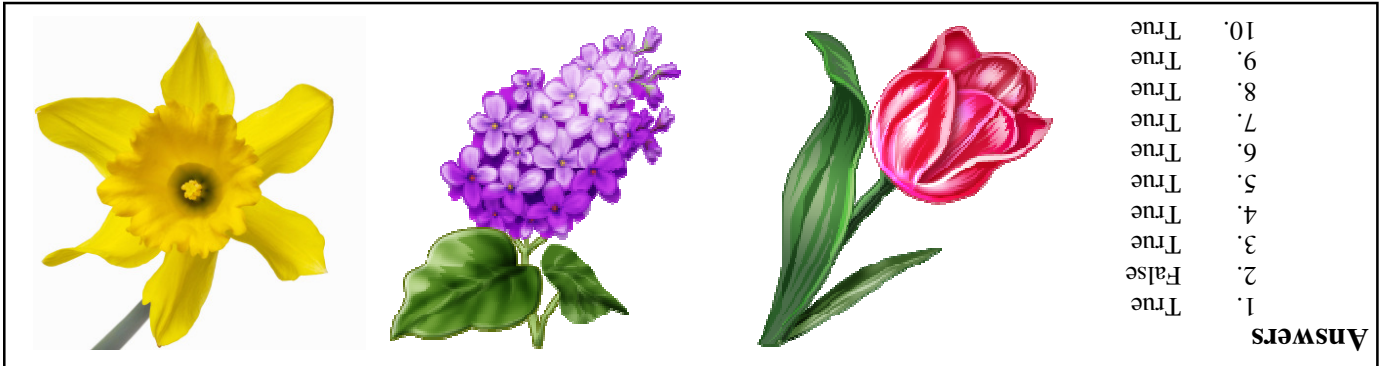
Second Place: Skip Anne Crawford, Vice Joan Arnold, Second Shelley Smith, Lead Norma Treacy

Joke/Trivia/ Quiz

SPRING QUIZ: TRUE OR FALSE ?

(<http://www.passionup.com/fun/fun500.htm>)

1. On the first day of spring, the hours of daylight and of darkness are equal.
2. During the vernal equinox, around March 21st, an egg will stand on its small end.
3. The ancient Greeks celebrated Mother's Day in spring.
4. Finding a four leaf clover is thought to bring you good luck.
5. The area along the California-Oregon border is known as "The Easter Lily Capital of the World".
6. Baby birds must learn to sing.
7. Arbor day, which encourages the planting of trees and celebrates the role trees play in the environment, is traditionally celebrated on the last Monday of April.
8. Spring fever is a real physical condition.
9. An emerald represents spring.
10. William Wordsworth wrote a famous poem about daffodils.



FROM THE EDITOR

As we get close to the end of another season, I want to share a few thoughts on communication. The newsletter is only as good as the contributions received from members. I hear about events in the locker room that never make it to the newsletter! I encourage everyone to think about and send me items of interest to the rest of the club. We will publish one final issue at the end of March/early April. The newsletter team is always on the lookout for "fresh blood"! Please let me know if you are interested in working on future newsletters. *Sally Hill Poupée*

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Sally Hill Poupée, Editor hillpoupee@yahoo.ca
Jutta Kraus Keller, Willi Keller, Layout and Publication
Brenda Gabbitous, Reporting and Distribution

COMING CLUB EVENTS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MARCH 28-29 (Saturday & Sunday): Home Hardware Mixed Bonspiel (Doug Hanna 687-4478)

APRIL 1 (Wednesday): Ladies Banquet (Joan Parsons 687-5557)

APRIL 4 (Saturday): Potluck Dinner (Ogie Thompson 646-2195)

JULY 17-19: Summer Bonspiel (Doug Hanna 687-4478)