



On The Button The Newsletter of the Cape Cod Curling Club

Message from the President:

Finally the Cold weather has come to Cape Cod, making the experience of walking onto the ice not quite as cold as it seemed during our mild December. Traditionally, February is the time that many go off to curl at different Clubs in many of the scheduled Bonspiels, while we at Cape Cod place host during one of our many annals Friendly Events.

To date, we have faired well, retaining both the Pieces Trophy with Nutmeg and the Archie Bruce Stone against Ardsley. All in attendance at the Nashua Friendly and Dinner had a great time. Now is the time to get your name on the list to participate in the Broomstones Friendly (March 3) and The Country Club Friendly (March 4). Both will be in Boston and would make for a great Curling Weekend.

Congratulations and thanks to the many members who have represented Cape Cod this year. Our fellow Curlers have gone as far west as Chicago and as far South as Maryland to show the talent and Curling Spirit of Cape Cod. Well Done!

Included in this months Newsletter is an overview and update on the Expansion Project by Russ Lemcke and myself. As many of you are aware, I have asked Russ to review and coordinate the different activities involved with the Expansion. He and I have met regularly and he has made a report and recommendation to the Board. We will be having an informational meeting with some potentially good news on March 11 -3:30PM at the Falmouth Congregational Church on Main Street, to review the Status and share all information. This is an extremely important meeting and we urge you to attend.

As always, I hope you all are having a positive and fulfilling time at the Club.

Good Curling-

Frank Geishecker

CURLING COMMITTEE – MOST IMPROVED CURLER 2007

It's almost time to cast your vote. Who will be selected the most improved male and female curlers this year? A ballot box will be placed on the bar. Please vote early and often (no just once please – this isn't Florida). Results will be announced at the annual dinner/meeting on April 11th.

SCROD Bonspiel: This is our in-house spiel for curlers with 5 years or less experience being run by Phil Baybutt. The event is scheduled for 23-25 March. Phil would appreciate all volunteers whether to play or to help out. The sign up sheet should be posted by the time you read this notice. The winners of the SCROD receive the Burkett Pin, much sort after by younger club members (only 4 are given out each year and none have ever been sold on E-bay).

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
11 March 2007 @ 3:30 PM
Falmouth Congregational Church, Main Street, Falmouth

Dear Friends,

Our Triple T Auction, that is our Time, Talent and Things Auction, is right around the corner. This fundraiser is a lot of fun and is a great way to contribute to the club by donating, purchasing or even better by donating and purchasing! Kim Gazal and I are hoping that you will take some time to consider what you might contribute to the club. We have had all sorts of great items in the past from get-away vacations to babysitting. We encourage you to be creative; we hope that everybody has at least one T to give. There is a donation form in this newsletter or you may pick one up at the club. The auction will be at our Annual Meeting on April 11th, 2007.

Kim and I would love help so if you would like join in please give us a call. Thank you, Matina.

CONTACT: Matina Heisler or Kim Gazal
Real Estate Associates
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Expansion Progress – Frank Geishecker/Russ Lemcke

We are pleased to report significant progress on the expansion project. **We urge you to attend the Sunday, March 11 informational meeting at 3:30 PM at the Falmouth Congregational Church (on the village green) for a complete update.** We are at an important crossroads.

In summary, here is where we are as of now, with much more being done in the next two weeks:

- John McCarthy is close to confirming costs to complete the expansion. As you may know, he is a licensed contractor who was able to come on board only three weeks ago. He is also meeting with the town planning board this week to get clarification on various issues.
- The Expansion Committee is looking at alternatives to complete the plumbing which is currently being worked on with Votec free labor at a painfully slow rate. Alternatives in that area depend upon our fund raising efforts. Please read on.
- For those not at our February membership meeting, John Treanor confirms that this expansion cannot be completed with debt only. We simply cannot afford the carrying costs and need more capital. Please read on for a potential solution.
- Most positive of all, the newly formed Fund Raising Committee under Peter Partridge has good news. A very small number of curling friends have made a matching grant offer and discussions are ongoing with others. Under a matching grant, every dollar the membership gives will be matched by the grant makers, up to a certain level. So \$100 of our money becomes \$200, \$1000 becomes \$2000 and so on. If this can be added up to their maximum, it **just may** be possible for us to complete this project, full blast. It all depends upon the desire and passion of our membership to give what we can and see this project done. In our initial drive, a very high percentage of our members gave. It would be wonderful if our club could have 100% participation at some level, since 100% of our members will benefit.

You are urged to attend this meeting on March 11.

The Friendly Corner - *Nashua Friendly*

February 17 /18 Cape Cod hosted the Nashua Country Club for a Friendly week-end. 14 curlers arrived from Nashua for the 4 PM game – there were many exciting moments including a 7-ender on sheet 3 and a final score of 17-1 on sheet 2! The tally after day 1 was Cape Cod 2, Nashua 1. A lively cocktail hour followed the game with lots of laughter and good natured teasing about the scores. An outstanding dinner of seafood crepes, cole slaw and peas 'n carrots followed by divine lemon cakes was prepared and served by Rita & Bob Ottaviano, Ann & Dave Dewees and Meg Becker and Russ Lemcke (Meg baked, Russ did not!). A lively raffle followed dinner – an assortment of gifts were won by numerous people – a fun way to end the evening.

Nashua retreated to their hotel down the hill with plans to re-organize their teams in hopes of better scores on Sunday morning. Their strategy worked as Nashua picked up 2 wins and Cape Cod 1. Final tally was a very friendly event with each Club winning a total of 3 games! After Bloody Marys and a hearty brunch, Cape Cod gave the Nashua curlers cranberry and beach plum jellies as a memento of the week-end. In the name of friendship, the curlers stood in a circle and sang Auld Lang Syne to wrap-up a most enjoyable week-end.

Special thanks to Mike O'Malley for preparing the ice, Todd Benedict and Joel Weintstein for pebbling before both games, Phil Baybutt, Derek MacDonald, Neal Hannon and John McCarthy for bartending, the Ottaviano's, Dewees', and the Becker/Lemcke's for a superb dinner, Jane Hannon, Susan Verner and Virginia Bristol for culinary support and, of course, the 20 Cape Cod curlers who participated in the Friendly. Great job done by all!

Broomstones and TCC Friendlies

Please check the bulletin board in the vestibule for sign-up sheets for the Broomstones friendly Saturday, March 3 – AT Broomstones and the Sunday, March 4 friendly AT The Country Club. The Broomstones game will be at 4 PM followed by dinner (\$10 per person – spouses/friends welcome, we just need a head count!). The TCC game will be at 10 AM followed by brunch (cost \$20/person – non-curlers welcome, but we do need a head count)

16 Cape Cod curlers can participate in each friendly – think about signing up to do both and make a friendly Week-end out of it!! New Curlers – this is a GREAT way to curl at another club in a non-competitive, stress-free format!

Friendly Co-Chairs - Cathy Offinger and Gretchen Partridge -

Away Bonspiels (OTHERWISE KNOWN AS CAPE CURLERS ON THE ROAD)

PanMass Challenge - Broomstones was the location for this inter-club challenge on Saturday, February 3rd. Two cape teams joined two from Petersham to play against four from Broomstones. This friendly format was a fun day with a game in the morning, a nice brisket lunch and then an afternoon game. Each Cape team defeated a Broomstones opponent. Cathy Offinger, Kathy Colgan, Phil Baybutt and Mike Minior joined Marinna Martini, Al Duester and Carl and Maxine Gustafson in representing the Cape. Special note should be made that Marinna's team won the silver hammer award for having the hammer the most ends (of play) for the day. Please be sure to congratulate them once you figure out what the award really means.

Newell International Bonspiel Clark and I just returned from the TCC 24-team spiel and sadly, were the only team representing Cape Cod. It was a great time, but more importantly. our team was fortunate enough to make it to the Finals on Sunday Afternoon. Cape Cod CC was runner-up in the

Third Event, The Mixed Nuts. Our Second was Paul Brennan and Lead, Joan Partridge (TCC.) (This is apparently a good combination of nuts because we all won the same event last year.)

Most of the other teams who made the finals were young hot-shots from Broomstones, even though there were 6 Canadian teams, (and we know what great competitors they are!). The exception was Tony Brebner's Toronto Cricket team who won the First Event, as they have done many times before. (Those kilts, though drafty, are very effective.) Cheers! Joyce Neill

Cleveland: On Thursday January 25th, Paul Mort & Coach Isabelle flew to Cleveland to join Beth and Bruce Listerman. The weekend with good friends was great. We curled in the annual Mixed Bonsel at the Cleveland Curling and Skating Club. Talk about a facility. They have Ice with five Curling Sheets, an Olympic sized Swimming Pool, Indoor tennis courts, paddle tennis, several restaurants and bars, etc.

Friday we took to the Ice with a local lady named Bonnie playing Lead.

Prudently we lost the first game and not so prudently the second game. We had Saturday off and then on Sunday we managed to Outscore a Cleveland team in a 8:00 AM match. We were on the ice again at 10:30 for the finals of the 4th Event. Our opponents were a couple from a Detroit teamed up with an Ontario couple. We won more ends and should have won the match but lost one big end. Hence we ended up with Finalist Medals in the 4th Event.

The bonspiel had a dozen Canadian teams, mostly from the Niagara Valley area. There was lots of snow in Cleveland. Most of the Canadian teams were hosted in private homes.

Queen of Hearts at Nashua Country Club, Feb 1 - 4. Cape Cod was runner-up in the 2nd event (Mary Colacchio, Virginia Bristol, Susan Verner, Carol Arakelian) and was also represented on the First Event Winning team from "Cape Brutica" (Anne Stuhlman, Utica - Skip; Lisa Mitchell, Broomstones - Vice; Liz Abeltin, Cape Cod-2nd; Julie Chanatry, Utica - lead and Kathy Vassar from Broomstones).

Youth Curling

Cape Cod Little Rocker Bonsel 2007

Saturday February 03rd was the annual Cape Cod Little Rockers Bonsel. Little Rockers are youth curlers under the age of 12. Smaller, lighter rocks are used. This year we had 8 teams entered for a total of 32 participants.

The name of the game for these Little Rocker bonspiels is FUN! Most of these curlers have only ever played at their own clubs and for many it is their first year. The first 15 minutes of the day is bedlam with a great deal of excitement. When it was all over win, lose, or draw everyone had a smile on their face from a good day at the rink.

Your Cape Cod Little Rockers represented their club magnificently! After a very tough first match Cape Cod 1 (S-Griffin Dunkley, V- Derek Riebesehl, 2-Truman Dunkley, L-William Perry) rebounded with a winning performance playing so well that they became winners of the first Event Finals. Cape Cod 2 (S- Brittany Lawler, V-Ryan Lino, 2-Devin Lawler, L-Tyler Lino) ended the day doing a great job with coming in with a participation award. This along with Cape Cod 3 (S-Liam Ryan V-Mathew Ryan 2-Mathew Coakley L-Brigit Ryan). Now, Cape Cod 4 (S-Sam Butler, V-James Bailey, 2- Alaina Plueddeman, L-Gus Butler) did a great job to come in with a super performance to end the Spiel as the runners up to the Second Event!

This bonspiel also offers individual glory and fun in the Sharp Shooter contest. Once again our youth did a terrific job and Cape Cod Curler Brittany Lawler won the "Draw to the Button" Contest. The "Take Out" was won by Hunter Secove from Broomstones. The "Raise" was won by our one and only Cape Codder Mathew Coakley.

As we all know these events can only happen if enough people are willing to lend a hand. I would like to thank all those who volunteered. A special mention needs to go to the ladies in the kitchen. Under the fine direction of Jane Butler a truly, Super Job! They were all parents of curlers, none of them curlers...yet, who did a great job with an even greater amount of enthusiasm. Thank you so much for all your help.

Bob Dunkley

Results are

1 st Event: Winners	Cape Cod 1	Finalists	Nashua 1
2 nd Event: Winners	Broomstones 2	Finalists	Cape Cod 4
3 rd Event: Winners	Broomstones 1	Finalists	Nashua 2

NAME THE NEW BAR: A SHEET WILL BE PLACED NEAR THE BAR. JOT DOWN YOUR SUGGESTIONS. FOR SOME REASON "PHIL - R - UP" WASN'T ANYONE'S FIRST CHOICE.

RULES/ETIQUETTE/COURTESY

Shirley Sez

I must **correct an interpretation** as made in last month's newsletter.

Under Rules/Etiquette/Courtesy I said that "a stone that is released, no matter where it is released (before or after tee line, before or after hog line) may not be regripped or it shall be removed from play and any stone it hits shall be replaced without benefit to either team."

After being taken to task over this ruling by a member who uses the regrip delivery, I checked this out with Bev Schroeder, Mgr. USCA Member Services and Ken McPartlin, GNCC Chrman Officiating & Rules and Officiating Instruction. Their interpretation of Rule 4) as printed in the newsletter is - the stone must be clearly released before the nearer hog line, however the regrip is definitely a "gray" area as nothing in the Rules of Play defines the regrip or "double" grip practice. Therefore this is not considered a burnt stone if the action is the part of the normal delivery and is done every time the curler delivers the stone. Regripping beyond the hog line is definitely a burnt stone.

They also stated that in some clubs there are people who want to ban the regripping practice but so far it is thought that from a practical standpoint it is impossible to police.

It is still not known if a regrip with the new sensor handles would get a fault reading.

The end conclusion of this foray into officialdom is - let's not teach our new curlers to regrip and let's suggest that they refrain if they suddenly show a tendency to regrip. We just do not know how long this will be considered a "gray" area. In the meantime, for those using this regrip it is presently legal if done every time the curler delivers the stone.

On to other things - last month I asked if you were all remembering to clean your shoes before going on the ice. This month, a reminder to please **clean your broom**, many times during a game if necessary - and it usually is.

For Up-to-date Club News check out www.capecodcurling.org

Saturday Night Social Dinners & Curling

ST. PATRICK'S WEARIN' OF THE GREEN

B'gosh and Beggah! 'Tis most St. Paddy's Day and I have to tell everybody about such goin's on.

Time: Saturday, March 17

4:00 pm Open Curling (open to every member). Sign up sheet will be posted in early March. Sign up for one of the 24 slots; teams will be arranged.

6:00 pm Cocktail hour: The "Four C's Club Pub" will be in operation for your enjoyment. Do you hear? Bartender Phil will stock Irish Beer.

7:00 pm Dinner - corned beef and cabbage with salad, potatoes and carrots topped off with apple crisp. Cost: \$12.00. Sign up sheets on the bulletin board limited to 60. Space is expected to go quickly so please try to sign up by March 9th so you won't miss out.

Enjoy camaraderie, Irish music, great food and prizes. Bring your Irish brogue and jokes to share. A real Irish feast hosted by Gloria and Bob Quegan, Linda and Buzz Schenck and Maxine and Carl Gustafson. Sure and it will be a party of the green, when everybody is Irish!

NOTE: There will be a raffle conducted by the committee in conjunction with the March 17th dinner. Raffle donations can be brought in the same night as the dinner. The donation needs to be wrapped. Contact Maxine for more information.

NEXT UP ON THE MENU

March 31 A Pull The Plug potluck to end a great curling season, with so many enthusiastic new members. Sign up for the dish you plan to bring, and enjoy a variety of great food! Your hosts will be Sally Ward, Jane and Neal Hannon and Gabrielle and Phil Bruce. Comraderie will abound, for sure.

The Curling Club has enjoyed some delicious dinners this season, with thanks to our talented, willing cooks, and their assistants. Phil Baybutt and his his hardworking crew made the meals more enjoyable by providing a full bar. Lastly, Mike O'Malley and his group of workers made the predinner curling more enjoyable by providing great ice! Thanks to all of you for helping to keep your club successful and fun.

Questions? Call Barbara Sylvia or Jo Ann Coleman

US/Scottish Tour

Cape was represented in the recent Scots tour, which concluded at The Country Club on February 3. From Cape Cod were Dave Dewees, Peter Mitchell, Paul Mort, and Frank Geishecker. The competition is played every five years between Scotland and the United States, alternating between the two countries. The event is played over a three week period and includes over 30 games. The

winning country receives the Herries Maxwell Trophy. This historic trophy is reputed replica of the Trafalgar Cup, presented to high ranking British Naval Officers by Queen Victoria during the nineteenth century.

The US Tour is one of three international tours that the sponsors, the others are with Canada and Switzerland. Under the guidelines of the Royal Caledonian, participants in the different tours are only eligible to travel in one trip in their lifetime. Needless to say, it was a great experience honor to meet these Curlers and to be a small part of their tour. The next competition will be held in Scotland in five years.

USWCA National Women's Bonspiel – Chicago

Each year the USWCA sponsors a National Bonspiel with women's teams from across the country, hosted by a club in the president's home region.

This was the 59th Annual National Women's bonspiel held at Exmoor country club just outside of Chicago. Mary Colacchio (skip), Meg Becker (vice-skip), Cathy Offinger (second) and myself (lead) decided it's easy to get to Chicago, and it's about time Cape Cod participated in this 'spiel.

What were we thinking? 32 teams, TIMED 10-end games, not to mention our first draw time was 7:30 AM! We were thinking we would have a great time, meet new friends and hopefully survive those darn 10-ends.

The friends part was easy, women came from across the nation to play... two teams from Granite in Seattle, and a slew of teams from Wisconsin, and don't forget the women from Duluth. One team was even skipped by an Olympian. We had dinner and a wonderful conversation with Georgia West, former USWCA President and the current USCA President. We are happy to report, US Curling is in good hands with Georgia!

Ann Swisshelm-Silver, former Olympian and 2003 World Champion curler, was the co-chair of the event. We found out from Ann that the Cape Cod summerspiels are "legendary." Of course we all think that, but to hear it from Ann, we couldn't have been more thrilled. We may have even convinced her to bring a team to the summerspiel.

As for the curling part, 10-end games were actually fun and we won a game against Kettle Moraine from Wisconsin. We are not deterred, we have already begun looking into flight costs to Duluth, Minnesota for next year's 'spiel (and extra long underwear too).

We did not come home empty handed. In the grand tradition of Cape Cod women's curling, we won a non-curling award – we named a new drink...The Hair of the Broom (see the recipe below). Cheers! Liz Abeltin

Hair of the Broom

1/2 measure of whiskey
1 measure Drambuie
1 measure Green Ginger (Stone's was the brand I saw)
1/2 measure Cointreau
1 measure of gingerale

EDITORS NOTE: Deadline for articles for next newsletter is 10 March

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE March – April 2007

Mar 3	Broomstones Friendly
Mar 4	TCC Friendly
Mar 9-11	Bay State Ladies
Mar 17	St. Patrick's Day Social Dinner
Mar 23-25	Scrod Bonspiel
Mar 31	Thornton Cup & Pull the Plug
Apr 11	Annual Meeting

Cape Cod Curling Club - 2007 TTT Auction

TIME TALENT THING or RAFFLE

Item:

Estimated Value:

Minimum Bid:

Limitations, Specifications, etc...

DONATED BY:

Your Contact Information:

(Please be sure to put a value on the item and what we should start the minimum bid at. If there are any special limitations or expiration dates, etc... please note above. Also, be sure to fill in your contact information for the winner. If you have any questions, please contact Matina or Kim 508/563-2887 ext 15 – work. You may fax this form to 508-563-6943, mail to: P.O. Box 875, North Falmouth, 02556 or leave it in the box at the club.)