

On the button

CAPE COD CURLING CLUB
Falmouth, Massachusetts

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A message from the **P R E S I D E N T**



Cathy Offinger

Dear Fellow Members:

Tra La, it's May, the lusty month of May!! Spring has been trying to settle in with fits and starts...but I truly do think we have seen the last of the snow and freezing temps. And our snowbirds have decided it is safe to return to the northern climes!

The past few weeks have been eventful. The Annual Meeting / Banquet on April 7 was very well attended. Even the Coonamessett bartenders commented that it was the largest gathering they had seen – guess they did not understand the social aspect of Curling! Thank you, as always, to the Culinary and Auction/Raffle Committees for orchestrating our year-end festivities. The highlight, I think, of the annual meeting is the announcement of the most improved female and male curlers. This year the honors went to Francesca Delle Femine and Bryan Hamilton. Their names are already engraved on the trophy!

As your new President, I have been working to fill the Committee Chair positions and meeting with various committees to ensure a smooth transition into Summerspiel and the new season. Thank you to everyone who has so willingly agreed to stay on or take on a new role within the volunteer organization of our club. You have heard it time and again – but it can never be said enough....this is YOUR club and we could not function as smoothly as we do without the dedicated care and generous volunteer hours you all give to the Cape Cod Curling Club!

We did experience an unfortunate event the week of May 1 with the forced entry into the club. We did realize the loss of some liquor and petty cash but we were so very fortunate not to have suffered major damage to our facility. This was a wake up call. The Board is working to make the building more secure and is improving our safety/surveillance measures.

(continued on page 2)

Thornton Cup / Pull the Plug Party

by Bill Gallagher

The Thornton Cup/Pull the Plug festivities were held on April 1, 2017. After a week of play-downs between the winning teams from the six Open Leagues, the two finalists met at center ice at 4:00pm for the chance to win the coveted Thornton Cup for 2017. In addition to the final match, Social Curling was held on sheets 1 and 3.

The two finalist teams who played for the Thornton Cup were the **Monday Evening League** winners with Mike Eatough (skip), George Bagley (vice), Sandy Bernstein (second), and Gordon Waring (lead). Competing against them was the **Tuesday 4:00pm League** winners of Kenny Thomson (skip), Tim Schorer (vice), Bob Reed (second), and Gabrielle Belfit (lead)



The **Thomson Rink** (pictured above) prevailed on center ice and won the coveted Cup for the 2017 year.

After curling, a Cocktail Party and Dinner was attended by over 90 club members and guests. A fabulous dinner of Chicken Parmesan was served and enjoyed by all. After dinner and awards to the winners, the Ice Crew "pulled the plug" (which consists of shutting down the compressors, turning up the heat in the ice shed, and removing the stones and hacks from the ice). Afterward, a free skate was enjoyed by both participants and observers in the warm room. The full day of activities was planned and executed by the members of the Thursday 4:00pm Open League and the Thursday Ladies League. Lots of talent and lots of hands made it easy work and a great success. It was a wonderful end to a great year of curling.

From the President *(continued from page 1)*

Summerspiel is coming! All 5 spiels are full! The chairs have been working with their committees to make sure everything will run smoothly and our visiting teams will experience the famous Cape Cod hospitality that has made our summer events so popular! Be on the look out for the member event notices in the next few weeks – you just may want to sign up for a lobster dinner or a pig roast!

August will be quiet...but then the ice will go back in the end of September and the Hot Shots Camp will return to Cape Cod. Leagues will start in early October and then the 10th annual Bogspiel! More on these exciting events in the next newsletter!

Enjoy May and June...and see you ALL as we host the Summerspiels from July 6 – 23....there is something for EVERYONE at the Summerspiel!

Cathy Offinger
President

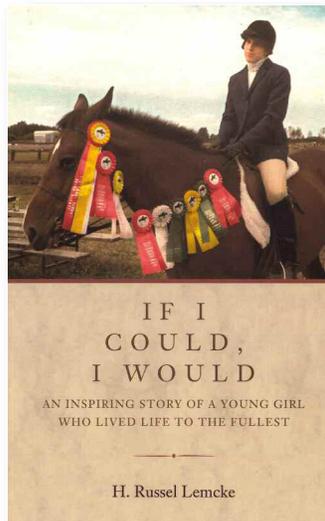
A BOOK WORTH READING

“If I could, I would.”

This is an inspiring book written by Russ Lemcke about the life of his daughter who, although legally blind her whole life and dealing with several bouts of cancer, lived an active 19 years. The book contains her letters and diary entries as a result of her doctors nudging her to record her thoughts. It is therefore written for those dealing with similar life issues. The book titled “If I Could, I Would” is available at the following book stores:

- Eight Cousins, Falmouth
- Titcombs in E. Sandwich
- Market St. Bookshop in Mashpee Commons.
- Or by website at: www.ificouldiwouldbook.com

I had the good fortune to help Russ Lemcke prepare this book for printing and read it as I did so. It is an inspirational legacy just now brought to book form by her loving father. Stephanie was a little girl who took on life as it came to her, bravely, with enthusiasm, creativity and humor. –Artie Howe



All proceeds from sales will go to charity.

Russ will be talking about his book on the radio show, The Point on WCAI on Thursday, May 18, from 9:00–10:00 am.

One of the highlights of the curling season for many of the newer curlers is the Scrod Bonsel. “The Scrod”, which takes place each year in Mid-March, is a great opportunity for curlers with five years or less experience to participate in an in-house event that provides a good mix of competition, friendship and lots of fun!



by Brian Pijanowski

This year, 48 men and women curlers participated in a three day bonsel that started on Friday, March 17 (St. Patrick’s Day!) and ended around noon on Sunday. The team of **Janice Kirby** (*lead*), **Eileen Sullivan** (*2nd*), **Artie Howe** (*vice*) and **Matt DeLuca** (*skip*) won the first event over finalists **Peter Mili** (*lead*), **Inke Forbrich** (*2nd*), **Andrea Woods** (*vice*) and **Dick O’Connor** (*skip*).



2017 Scrod winners with their chosen nicknames that were part of their rallying cry on the ice: Janice “Skippy” Kirby, Eileen “Sully” Sullivan, Artie “Picasso” Howe, and Matt “Matty” DeLuca

As with any CCCC event, a terrific group of volunteers provided great ice, meals, hospitality, beverages, goody bags and trivia contests. Continuing with tradition, Saturday evening featured a delicious Scrod Dinner prepared by the volunteer kitchen crew with fish donated by Pat and Mary Kavanagh.

The event was run by the Tuesday Men’s League and the Sunday Evening Open League with special thanks to Kenny Thomson and Donna Pijanowski for their many contributions running the event.

Thank you, Todd

As Cathy Offinger takes over as our president, let us not forget the contributions that Todd Benedict brought us over the past two years. Thanks go out to Todd and Karin, both strong contributors, from all of us at the Club.



Todd between founder Dave Dewees and legend Frank Sylvia



The Upcoming 10th Annual Bogspiel

by Jamie Hutchinson

The Bog Spiel Committee, led by John and Linda McCarthy, has begun meeting and planning the 10th Bog. Some traditions will be reinstated (the pins are back for all event winners and runners up!), some will be retired, and some new ones will be added. Mary Colacchio has designed a beautiful first event trophy to commemorate 10 years of Bog Spieling. This trophy will be kept at the club. Paul Sofuolis is creating individual trophies for the first three events winners and runners up. These trophies will be taken home. We are hoping to have 6 events if we can figure out the draw!

Discussions are still underway at the committee level concerning the number of teams for the spiel

as well as the number of Cape teams. The discussions are wide ranging with a variety of different thoughts and perspectives being shared.

The Bog Spiel is tentatively slated to start on Thursday evening, Oct. 19th and end with the finals on Sunday, Oct. 22nd. The Entry Form will be available in June.

If you are interested in housing a team to help defray costs for our curling friends, please let Jamie Hutchinson know. The Spiel will remain an OPEN format.

The next committee meeting will be at the club on Tuesday, May 23rd at 6:00.

Winter League Winners

from Krista Longnecker'

SUNDAY OPEN

Steve Emt, Peter Clark,
Kathy Colgan, Barbara Sheerin

MONDAY 4 PM

Frank Sylvia, Katie Murphy,
Rich Lousararian, Sandy Trainor

MONDAY NIGHT

Mike Eatough, George Bagley,
Sandy Bernstein, Gordon Waring

TUESDAY 4PM

Kenny Thomson, Tim Schorer,
Bob Reed, Gabrielle Belfit

TUESDAY MENS

Todd Benedict, Paul Sofuolis,
Bud Vana, Darryl Christensen

WEDNESDAY 4 PM

Brian Damon, Andrew Bailey,
Kerry Carlson, Ken White

WEDNESDAY COMPETITIVE

Chuck Barnes, Derrick Zarra,
Jeff Brodeur, Cathy Uhl

THURSDAY 4 PM

Dave Nisula, Will Gerlach,
Bob Reed, Andrea Lousararian

WOMENS

Shay Austin-Leary, Margaret McNabb,
Eileen Sullivan Debra Cubillos

FRIDAY DOUBLES

Matina Heisler and Levi Gorrell

SCROD LEAGUE

Dana Gerlach, Francesca Delle-
Femme,
John Carroll, David Forsberg

Member Accomplishments in 2017

by Krista Longnecker'

Cape Cod Curling Club members were also active at national and international events. The number of members making it to the finals of different bonspiels is quite impressive. The following is a list of member accomplishments. The information was gathered from the websites of other clubs, our On the Button newsletter, the GNCC web site, and from conversations with individual members. The following list is alphabetical and apologies are given in advance for any errors and omissions.

- **Bog Spiel, 2nd Finalist:** Glen Amaral.
Al Duester, Marinna Martini, Wendy Scholes;
3rd Finalist: Mike Minior, Ken Thomson,
Gary Block, Mike Wilson; **4th Winner:** Mary
Colacchio, Cathy Offinger, Linda Pistilli,
Donna Pijanowski; **4th Finalist:** Barbara Enos,
Renee Voorhees, Deb Sawka, Barbara Sheerin
- **Elisabeth Childs Challenge, 1st Winner:**
Cathy Uhl, Alex Zollo, Brigitta Brandt, and
Francesca Delle Femine
- **GNCC Senior Men's, 2nd Winner:** David
Nisula, Steve Mojo, Bob Reed, Dave Garrison;
3rd Finalist: Bill Gallagher, Tom Ballou,
Darryl Christensen, Artie Howe
- **GNCC Senior Mixed, 1st Finalist:** John
McCarthy, Martha Kenney, John Kenney,
Linda McCarthy; **3rd winner:** Paul Sofuolis,
Jamie Hutchinson, Artie Howe, Paula Howe
- **GNCC Senior Women's, 2nd Finalist:**
Mary Colacchio, Cathy Offinger, Linda Pistilli,
Carol Arakelian
- **Golden Handle, 2nd Finalist:** Paul Sofuolis,
Jamie Hutchison, Arthur Howe, Paula Howe
- **Gordon International, Steven's Shield:**
Bob Ottaviano, Steve O'Neil, Todd Benedict,
Joe Cammarano, Phil Bruce
- **Granite, 3rd Finalist:** Chuck Barnes, Phil
Bruce, John Kenney, Scott Fernandes; Gary
Block: All Star 2nd award
- **Maine-iac, 3rd Winner:** Kenny Thomson,
Kathleen Harlow, Joe Cammarano, Barbara
Thomson
- **Norfolk Calder, 2nd Finalist:** John McCarthy,
Phil Bruce, John Howard, Paul Rodgers
- **Queen of Hearts, 1st Winner:** Jaime Hutch-
inson, Teri Olson (Broomstones), Karen Smith
(Broomstones), Alina Martinez (Broomstones)
- **Schenectady Open Bonspiel, 3rd winner:**
Matina Heisler, Krista Longnecker, Levi
Gorrell, Liz Abeltin
- **Silver Belles, 1st winner:** Matina Heisler,
Krista Longnecker, Elizabeth Abeltin, Wendy
Scholes; **5th Finalist:** Gabriele Bruce, Natalie
Galligan, Martha Kenney, Nanci Pacheco
- **Summer Spiel, Wheel chair (Gold)-**
USA: Stephen Emt, Kirk Black, James Joseph,
Meghan Lino, Coach. Steve Brown
- **USWCA 5/under event at Cape Cod,**
1st Winner: Mark Wilson, Will Gerlach, Bill
Waite, Carolyn Wurm; **1st Finalist:** Courtney
Lee Beauregard, Carrie Gentile, Suzanne
LaValle, Patty Oakley; **2nd Winner:** Brian
Monteleone, Bill Fragaszy, Pat Kavanagh,
Mary Kavanagh; **2nd Finalist:** Jim Woodworth,
Barbara Sheerin, Kathy Maloney, Sandy
Nelson; **4th Winner:** Darryl Christensen,
Tom Ballou, Bob Reed, Kathy Devlin-Reed;
4th Finalist: George Eldridge (Nutmeg), Terry
Hannigan (Long Island), James Newton, John
Woods, Joe Chronic, Andrea Woods (Cape Cod)
- **Worcester Cup, 1st winners:** Cathy Uhl,
David Uhl, Brigitta Brandt, Bryan Hamilton

17th Annual Triple T Auction

by Mary Colacchio



Thanks to the abundant, thoughtful and creative donations, generous bidding and the committee's hard work, this year's auction was once again a smashing success. Bidding was competitive on the silent auction of items on the Time, Talent and Things tables. Raffle items and 50/50 ticket sales were wonderful too! The Pig raffle is another benefit to the proceeds! Raffle tickets for this curling season's Pig were sold similarly to the 50/50 to see who would win the contents of it. The breakdown of the totals in revenue are \$405 for the Pig contents, \$315 for the 50/50 Raffle, \$1070 for the Items Raffle and \$6,760 for the Silent Auction. The event grossed a total of \$8,550 which is pretty close to the amount raised last year at this time. In today's economic environment that is very impressive and it couldn't have been done without everyone's participation. We had 121 people attend the event on April 7th and that is 2 more over last year's attendance overall. A friend and guest of the Vaccaro's won the 50/50 at \$315...lucky lady!..... and Steve Emt won the Pig, which was holding \$272 in its belly....that's a lot of hogged stones!

Runi Kleinas does a superb job mastering the details and conducting the event from start to finish. There were some who helped before, during, and after the auction but special thanks go to Runi most of all who has the major share of the work in putting this on for the curling club - and he was cer-

tainly The Master once again on this year's event. More thanks go to some in his corner who were active on the support team - Janet / Tom Azarovitz, Mary / Tony Colacchio, and new members, Ed & Barbara Conolly. Many more thanks are due to our contributing members, far too numerous to mention here, but look for the listing of donors and winners that will be published in an upcoming Consolidated Eblast as that will cover it all in detail.

Each year we learn how to get a little better at working out the processes in running the auction - which always seems to present new challenges to conquer but this year ran quite smoothly as far as that goes. Runi made some significant strides in overcoming obstacles we have encountered in the past and think it went pretty well this time with regard to setting up, bidding protocol and check out procedures. We were all finished in record time with the distribution of the details and were able to enjoy most of the Annual Meeting before it was time to collect and cash out the evening's proceeds.

All is well that ends well and this year's event certainly did as can be seen in the figures at the bottom line!

None of it would be possible without everyone's active participation and amazing generosity in all areas of this annual fundraising event. Thank you all for the success of the 2017 Triple T Auction and here's wishing everyone a wonderful Spring and the beginning of Summer until we meet again in July!

My goodness, we do "dress-up" well, don't we?

Photos from Sandy McAra



Laurel and Hardy stole the show at the Petersham Spiel this winter.



Wilma and Fred paid us a cordial visit at our "Spooktacular."



Guests sang a hilarious Gilligan's Island theme song, with Gilligan, Ginger, Mary Ann and the Skipper all attending

Summerspiel

UPDATE

by Mike Minior

The start of the 2017 Summerspiel is less than 2 months away. Spiel chairs are hard at work pulling all the final details together to make this a memorable event. Many of you signed on to assist with the various support activities and will be contacted in the coming weeks to finalize your help. And as some of you may ask "what can I do to help," please watch your email as requests will be sent requesting appetizers for one of the Spiel's cocktail parties.

You will also receive an invitation to sign up to attend any or all of the spiel activities, including the Mixed Lobster Bake, the Ladies' Banquet, the Men's Pig Roast or the Wheelchair Banquet to name a few.

Oh, and remember, this is a curling event. Some of you who may have watched *Friday Night Curling in America* this past winter may remember Becca Hamilton. We are delighted that Becca will be curling in the Ladies Spiel. You may have also heard of the US High Performance curlers. Well, their members will be competing in the Junior Spiel. Capping off our Summerspiel will be the Wheelchair Spiel featuring teams from Korea, Slovakia, Quebec as well as our own Team USA.

Hopefully you have time to come down, help out, and watch world class curling.

We are an all volunteer club, but each of us really needs to ask, "Am I doing my part?"

We chose just a few of many who quietly contribute far more than their share. Let's be inspired!



JoAnn and Janet, faithful culinary coordinators



Katie Murphy can really cook for a crowd



Phil Baybutt runs the bar, everyone's friend!



Renee Voorhees is our Energizer bunny!



Glenn Amaral, he's just quietly amazing!

Curling through the Generations

by Kathy Devlin-Reed

The Cape Cod Curling Club has a membership of over 300 people. Ranging in age from the mid 90's to 7. Some of our members have curled for over 40 years and some are in their first year. We have members who have always curled at Cape Cod and members who are experienced curlers but new to Cape Cod. We have many members that grew up in a "curling family" meaning they, as children, watched their parents, and sometimes grandparents curl. We also have members who curl as a family—parents and children all curl, sometimes on the same team.

Pat Jones, Martina Heisler, Wendy Sholes, Will Gerlach, Phil Baybut, Ben Wellington, Dave Garrison and Kathy Harlow all grew up watching their parents and sometimes grandparents curl and have become curlers themselves.

Moira Minior and Katie Murphy's mothers completed our Learn to Curl program, became active morning curlers and participated in a few bonspiels before life changes forced them to stop curling.

We also have a pretty sizeable group of members whose children are, or were, curlers: the Dunkleys, Ottavianos, Dewees, Colacchios, Uhls, Murrays, Gerlachs, Learys, Wilsons, Boardmans, Waites, Kleinas, Robillards, Murphys, LaVallees and Baileys.

Our sport expects participants to behave respectfully toward one another, observe the rules of play without umpires supervising, politely greet opposing team members and congratulate them on a game well played regardless of the outcome. Opponents share a beverage and conversation after each game which solidifies the team concept.

Are these the reasons families curl together? Do we participate in a sport that fosters good values along with being competitive? Are we providing our children and sometimes parents with an example of competitive grace and gamesmanship in an effort to enhance family life?

Curling is a cognitively competitive sport which is also lots of fun. People of varying physical abilities and ages are able to successfully compete against one another. Maybe we should promote our sport as a "family" activity and encourage curling through the generations.

Can you match these members with what's been a part of their lives?

Ralph Vacarro	Obstetrician
Peter Brown	Physical Education Teacher
George Bagley	College Hockey Referee
Patty Oakley	Pig/Potato Farmer & Fine Artist
Terry Kirby	Stationery Store Proprietor
Paul Sofuolis	Superintendent of Schools
Janice Kirby	Concert Violinist

Answers at bottom of back page



A condensed version of what Tony presented at the 2017 Annual Meeting

Over the past nine years, YOU, our membership, has welcomed, helped teach, and supported our wheelchair curlers far beyond what I ever envisioned. I am and will always be grateful to all of you for that wonderful support.

Our biggest accomplishment isn't that we have had three of our wheelchair curlers make it to Team USA status, but rather, the lifelong sport they will all enjoy for so many years to come. It's a sport they can play with able body curlers and enjoy each other's company in a sport where their disability is not a factor. This game, our game... curling at Cape Cod, goes far beyond just the dimensions of the sheet of ice.

Our Wheelchair Curlers, quite remarkably, competed in over 15 events over the past 12 months. These events took them to Finland, Scotland, South Korea, and to six different states across this country.



Steve Emt continues as the Skip on our USA Olympic Team.

Last year the GNCC set aside \$2,000.00 that could be used to include other Wheelchair Curlers to join us at Clinics in order to demonstrate how those in wheelchairs can play the game with able body curlers. \$1,500 of those funds were utilized this past year and I am hopeful the remaining \$500, can be put with another \$2000 this coming year. If we receive these funds, we hope to get more clubs involved in starting their own Wheelchair Curling Programs.

A year ago our balance in the Wheelchair Curling Fund was \$11,483. Recently, with our balance nearing the \$2,000 mark, I again asked for funding from members and am pleased to say the fund balance is up to \$10,502.

On behalf of our wheelchair curlers and myself, we can't begin to express how grateful we are for the support we have from our club.

Thank you very much,

Tony Colacchio

Our Youth Program Makes Its Mark!

by Artie Howe

Kudos to John Murray and those who help run the Youth Program at our club. They enjoyed remarkable success this past season, most of which happens outside the view of club members.

With curlers ranging from 7 to 20, they trained long and hard all season and competed with remarkable success in many bonspiels and playdowns.

The Little Rockers participated in 3 spiels. One at home, then at Petersham and Broomstones. They won two 1st events, a 2nd event, and were finalists in another.

Juniors had one CCCC member compete at the

GNCC U18 National Playdowns where the team finished 2nd and represented GNCC at the U18 Nationals. While playing in three regional spiels, a CCCC Junior curler or team was 1st event winner or finalist in every one of them.

At the Broomstones Bantam Spiel (all ages under 16), our curlers were event winners in two events and event finalist in another. They are looking for a sweep next year.

The future is bright for our membership as these young stars continue to emerge, soon to join us all.



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Answers to Quiz: Ralph—Concert Violinist, Peter—Obstetrician, George—Stationery Store Proprietor, Patty—Superintendent of Schools, Terry—Hockey Referee, Paul—Pig/Potato Farmer & Fine Artist, Janice—Physical Education Teacher