



## March 2016 NEWSLETTER

### Upcoming events

#### 2016

April 2 - Maple Syrup Bonspiel

April 13 – Ladies year-end banquet

April 15 – Membership survey deadline

April 16 – Little Rock and Bantam year-end awards

June 4 – Golf tourney (sign-up in the lounge)

**Please visit the website for more details on upcoming events!**



### Message from the President

It's hard to believe that there are just a couple of weeks left in the curling season. I hope that you have enjoyed your games and have lots of great memories from this season.

We had another busy month hosting three very popular bonspiels and you can read about them later in this newsletter. The Maple Syrup bonspiel is our final of the season and takes place this week-end. My thanks to everyone involved in making these events such a success.

The Facilities Review & Planning Committee is underway and consists of these eight members: Chris Pidgeon, chair, Lavern Brubacher, Linda Dickson, Dave Millard, Marc Ethier, Susan Martin, Art Phelan and Don Stockman. Thank you for your commitment to this project.

Our committee working on celebrating the Club's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary have many great plans for next season and you'll be hearing about those very soon.

Enjoy the end of the curling season and as always, please contact me or any Board member if you have questions.

Thank you.

**Lorne MacKinnon**  
President, Elmira & District Curling Club



## Ribs 'n Tails Bonspiel

Participants in the Ribs 'n Tails bonspiel have come to expect a wild and wacky day. This year was no exception as the theme was "Hog Wild!". The music video for this song by Hank Williams Jr. was shown as the teams arrived and set the backdrop for the day.

Both draws were filled with visiting teams from KW Granite, Plattsville, Westmount, Brant, Milton, Oakville, Royal Canadian (Toronto), Tavistock, Orillia, Galt Country, and Guelph. All teams competed in three 6-end games plus, of course, the usual extracurricular activities!

On the curling side of things, congratulations to the 2016 winning teams:  
Early draw: Dave Holt (KW Granite)  
Late draw: Bill Green (Tavistock).



"Hog Wild" conjures up images of riding a Harley out on the open road. We didn't have a Harley or an open road, so we settled for a kiddie bicycle and the lounge! Teams competed in a Hog Wild bike race – two laps

around the lounge dressed in biker gear and piggy attire. Competitors were timed and of course got bonus points for creativity. The winning team on each draw received a box of Hog Wild piggy cookies.

The fun wasn't over though because at the end of the day, competitors had to sing for their prize. Lyrics to the song "Hog Wild" were provided with many words missing for the teams to creatively fill in (keeping it PG-13 rated of course!). This was more fun than American Idol outtakes, and everyone got into the spirit of the event. We had rappers, John Denver impersonators, and musical pots and pans to name a few.



Many thanks to all of our hard-working volunteers in the kitchen and bar who prepared fabulous meals, and to Rob Shaw our Ice Tech. Also to Lavern Brubacher and Allan and Linda Dickson for providing "hog wild" attire. We look forward to planning another fun day for guest curlers next season.

***Dianne Crossley and Paul Fusari***



## Men's Texas BBQ Bonspiel



The 2016 edition of the Men's Texas BBQ bonspiel was held on Saturday, March 5. The bonspiel, renowned for its thick and juicy steaks,

hosted 16 teams from area clubs and sold out early.

Decent weather enabled all the curlers to arrive on time and, with some fresh coffee and snacks, everything got underway on schedule. Usually most of the teams at this spiel are repeats from last year's event. For a variety of reasons, some could not make it resulting in an even split of new and returning teams. Area clubs represented were K-W Granite (3), Galt Curling (3), Ayr (4), Guelph (4), Oakville (1) and Hamilton (1).

The format of the bonspiel is 2 draws – each with three 8-end games. This format presents some challenges for keeping things on schedule; but with the cooperation of the skips and timely preparation of the ice between games by our ice maker Rob, the day progressed more or less as planned. Over the course of the day, only one match got behind. It was the “Battle for the Bacon” game in the early draw. Thanks to skips Otis Hall and Jason Pye for agreeing to play six ends.

In the 9 a.m. draw, Marc Joyce (Granite) defeated John Tart (Guelph) to take first place while in the 11 a.m. draw, Greg DeVos (Guelph) claimed gold with a win over Jon Duguay (Oakville).

Probably the best shot of the bonspiel was made by skip Gord Connon from the Granite club in the 9 a.m. draw. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> end, he had the hammer and had to remove a well-guarded opposition stone to score. Gord made a fine angle-raise takeout to score 6. Unfortunately for the New World Curlers from Guelph, it meant an early trip to the lounge.

Local businesses that sponsor our bonspiel are:

- Foodland – luncheon meats and kaisers
- Wellington Brewery – 6-paks for the prize table
- Good Automotive – cash donation
- The Woodburner – BBQ and propane

These firms have been associated with this bonspiel for many years and their sponsorship contributes greatly to our success. Please take some business their way when you can.

On the financial side of things, our event usually generates some tidy income. This year, brisk bar activity and a raffle (bottles donated by two members) helped push revenues above \$6,000. Finally, to the volunteers who came out to prepare food, cook meals, serve curlers, clean up, work the BBQ or tend the bar – you did a fantastic job and the curlers really appreciated your hospitality and enthusiasm. Thank you very much – you really do make a difference.

*John Hrabi*



### Broom Sticks & Glow Sticks Bonspiel



Two full draws were glowing on March 12 for our annual Broom Sticks & Glow Sticks bonspiel. Each draw consisted of three home teams and five outside teams with a mix of returning and new teams.

It was an all Elmira final on the early draw but Team Martin came away with the win. Team Martin consisted of Melody Martin, Larry Martin, Jackie Gidge and Ken Fargo. On the late draw another Elmira team, Team Walker, took the win over a team from the K-W Granite Club. Team Walker consisted of Christopher Walker, Nick Goodfellow, Greg Evans and Alicia Thompson.



*Colleen Coghlin*

### Team Pidgeon competes at the Best Western Intermediate Women's Provincials



2016 Intermediates Provincial Championships

We'd really like to thank Rudow's Carstar Collision Centre, GSP Group Inc. and the Elmira & District Curling Club for the sponsorship and support of our team. We would also like to thank those members who took the time out of their busy schedules to make the drive to Acton and support our team by watching from the stands. It was greatly appreciated by all of us to see some familiar and friendly faces behind the glass.



*Twyla Gilbert, Jenn Bernard, Colleen Coghlin and Mary Pidgeon*



## Congratulations to Lavern Brubacher, awarded Outstanding Volunteer



This very deserving nomination was fully endorsed by many Club members and was unanimously accepted by the review committee.

Lavern's tireless efforts include:

- Sits on the board of directors as House Facilities Chairperson
- Purchasing of the shed...included working with vendors to purchase it, as well as dealing with the township for building permit and the golf course for their approvals
- Was the lead on the purchase of the reverse osmosis water purifying system
- Was the lead on installing the new brine system piping a few years back...this was a great deal of work, included replacing the sand
- Looks after sweeping up the sand with paint in it each summer and looks after the disposal of same
- Assists with the installing of the ice and painting the ice each year

- Was the lead on replacing the side boards two years ago, this included cutting the wood to size (this involved several "Work Parties" at CLM in Floradale) and painting of the new side boards
- This summer replaced the score boards, included building the frames ordering the sign and installing the signs
- Cemented the sidewalk and shed pad
- Installed the outside railing
- Researched, bought and installed the lights in lounge
- Helped with the installation of TV and monitors
- Digging and unplugging pipes that caused foul odour in our change rooms.
- Sanded and varnished lounge floor
- Placed felt pads under chairs in lounge
- Roof repairs
- Constantly doing small jobs around the club (such as light bulb replacement)
- And in addition, when Lavern sees something that needs to be done, he does it!

Lavern was presented with the Award on Monday, March 21 between draws.



Past winners Susan Martin (left) and Carolyn Adams join Lavern and Lorne MacKinnon



## 2016-17 Membership Information

The Board of Directors has approved the membership registration package for the 2016-2017 season. Please note that printed packages will not be distributed to members this year, but you can print one from the website.

Everyone is highly encouraged to use the online registration and payment system, which will be available this summer. You can read more about the online process in the package or at the end of this newsletter. An email will be sent out when online registration opens. Registration via the paper form is still an option.

There are two new league offerings for next season and I am happy to report there will be no fee increases. The registration deadline for returning members is **August 31, 2016**. The AGM will be held on **Tuesday September 13** at 7 p.m. If you are unable to attend, please complete a proxy form (copies located at the bar, or from the website).

Please review the package and if you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

***Colleen Coghlin***

## Membership Survey - we want to hear from you!

A reminder to all members to complete our Club survey and send us your feedback. A link to the on-line survey was sent out via email to the membership. There are some paper copies at the bar if you would like to fill one out the old fashioned way. Thank you for your participation and we look forward to hearing from everyone (deadline April 15). Help us reach our goal of at least 100 responses!

## Changes to OCA events next year

If you participate in OCA competitions, or are considering it for next year, note that the OCA is introducing changes to the playdown structures.

- 1) The Bantam and Junior categories have been replaced with U15, U18, and U21 categories.
- 2) In most cases, the 16 Zone playdowns have been replaced with a lesser number of 'qualifiers', grouping zones together.
- 3) Some events will not allow 'parachuting' - that is, all team members must actively curl at the Club they wish to represent.

The bulletin board downstairs has a copy of the complete reports. Visit the OCA website for more details (Competitions Review) - [ontcurl.com](http://ontcurl.com)



## Curling 101 Update

by Paul Fusari

The winter session of Curling 101 is now coming to a close. We have another 40 graduates who have learned how great our sport is. Thanks again to the many volunteers who helped make this happen!

As indicated in the membership package, next year the winter session of 101 will be replaced with an Open Social draw. We found that a number of participants were taking 101 twice, many of them liking the game play. A winter social draw will attract the Fall 101 graduates and will also provide another early draw option for members.

If you have an interest in coaching new curlers, the Club will cover the cost of Club Coach training for a limited number of members, provided sufficient volunteer hours are put back in. Please contact me if interested.



Colleen Coghlin discusses strategy with 101 participants

## Elmira team wins the Hooten, Tooten bonspiel in Ayr

Lead Jaime Jones, Second Dianne Crossley, Vice Michelle Anthony and skip Sheila Smith-Jones. Is \$10,000 enough for these women?



## Used books

Thanks to everyone who buys and donates books. Please continue to bring in your used books and leave them on the bookshelf for your fellow Club members to purchase and enjoy.



### TV raffle – draw takes place April 13

We have a beautiful new 60" Panasonic CS560 television in the lounge this season, and once again our big screen will be raffled off as an annual fundraiser. Tickets are available at the bar and are 1 for \$10 or 3 for \$20 (only 500 tickets will be sold). The TV raffle has been a significant fundraiser for the Club and members are encouraged to buy tickets, and make them available to family and friends. Many thanks for your support!



### Your 2015-2016 Board of Directors

President	Lorne MacKinnon
Past President	Bill Barr
Vice-President	Paul Fusari
Secretary	Donna Trimble
Treasurer	Dianne Sherwood
Assistant Treasurer	Ian Mathers
Membership Manager	Colleen Coghlin
Food Services	Dianne Crossley
House Facilities	Lavern Brubacher
Club & Special Events	Melody Martin
Junior Curling	Glenn Paulley
Communications	Pat Johnson
Director at Large	Ryan Marshall

There is a binder behind the bar with Club By-Laws and Board meeting minutes. Minutes are also available on the Club website.

Next Board meeting is April 14 at 6:30 p.m. Watch for the meeting schedule posted at the Club and members are invited to attend these meetings. If you have any comments or suggestions about anything at the club, please feel free to contact a board member to discuss. If you're interested in becoming a board member, please contact Lorne MacKinnon.

## Important Information: Online Registration is coming

**All members are encouraged to register online for the 2016/17 season. An email notification will be sent when registration is open this summer.**

### How does it work?

Returning members	Once registration opens, log into the member's area of the website. There will be a link that will take you to the registration. You will key in your registration information (e.g. contact info, membership type, league selections, etc.) and submit.
New members	You must have a website account created by emailing <a href="mailto:membership@elmiracurlingclub.ca">membership@elmiracurlingclub.ca</a> . Once your login credentials are provided, you can proceed to log into the member's area of the website (see above).

### What about payment?

There will be three payment options when you register online:

1) Pay Later	Your registration is accepted and you <u>must</u> submit payment separately (via cheque(s), cash, or debit). <b>Note:</b> late fees apply for returning members after <b>August 31, 2016</b> (as detailed in the package).
2) Pay in full with Visa or MasterCard	You pay your fees in full online with your credit card by Aug. 31.
3) Pay the first installment Online	Pay your first instalment online with your credit card before the Aug. 31 deadline. Your remaining instalments must be paid separately by post-dated cheques, all submitted by Sept. 30.

### Will credit cards be accepted at the Club?

No. Due to the costs associated with providing a credit card terminal at the Club, credit card payment will only be available online. We will continue to accept Interac debit at the Club.

### Can I still submit a paper registration form?

Yes, online registration is encouraged but not mandatory, you can still submit a paper form and pay with cash, cheque(s) or debit. There will be some printed forms at the Club or you can print one from the website.

*Printed forms will not be distributed to members this year.*

### How will I know if I got into my selected Leagues?

As registrations are validated, you can log into the website and select 'Teams, Schedules and Standings'. Once your acceptance into a league is confirmed (as per the rules in the membership package), you will see your name listed under Teams for that league.

### What if I need help?

We will be hosting registration nights at the Club (mid/ late August – dates TBD) where members can come in and receive help registering online. If you have any questions or require assistance, please contact Colleen Coghlin ([membership@elmiracurlingclub.ca](mailto:membership@elmiracurlingclub.ca)) or Paul Fusari ([webmaster@elmiracurlingclub.ca](mailto:webmaster@elmiracurlingclub.ca)).



# CALLING ALL LADIES FROM THE ELMIRA CURLING CLUB

## Ladies' Year-end Banquet (that's right- Ladies only!)

**When:** Wednesday, April 13, 2016

**Where:** Elmira Curling Club Lounge

**Time:** Bar opens 6 p.m.

**Dinner:** 6:45 p.m.

**Theme:** Bridesmaid or Wedding Attire - **Dressing up is optional**

- **Cost:** A potluck dish to share with others.
- Please sign up as soon as possible on the sheet posted in the Ladies locker room so we know how many are coming and what you are bringing for the potluck.

**This is an evening of fun and fellowship for all ladies who belong to the Elmira Curling Club.**

*Penny Stager and Tammy Perry*  
Banquet hosts

