



# Venerables CoffeeBreak



President's Edition February 2015

## President's Bonspiel

submitted by Gary Sampson

The annual Presidents Bonspiel was held the week of January 19<sup>th</sup>. Thirty six teams competed in the bonspiel. The consolation results were as follows: Vic Cuff's team won with a score of 166 for the 3 games. The team consisted of Vic Cuff at Skip, Ron Lott as Vice, Don Hills as Second and John Brittain as Lead. Gord Haney's team came in second with 143 points. The team consisted of Gord Haney at Skip, John Dipede as Vice, John Walker as Second and Bert Tate as Lead. Jim Tebo's team came in third with 137 points. The team consisted of Jim Tebo at Skip, Ed McGregor as Vice, Jo Win as Second and David Hansen as Lead.

Dave Abrams team won the main event with a score of 201 points for the 3 games. The team consisted of Dave Abrams at Skip, Wayne



Black as Vice, Don Winter as Second and Kevin Cahill as Lead. Don Eto's team came in second with the same points (201) as Dave Abrams team but Dave Abrams team were declared the winners because they won more ends. The team consisted of Don Eto as Skip, Gary Mandel as Vice, Mike Hughes as Second and Tom Stephens as Lead. Dave Hampton's team came in third with 197 points. The team consisted of Dave Hampton as Skip, Dave Andrews as Vice, John Wills as Second and Alan King as Lead.

The fourth place team was Terry Calder with 195 points, the fifth place team was Alf MacInnis with 159 points and the sixth place team was Clare Seeley with 157 points.

We were fortunate to have the following eleven former Presidents in attendance: Ed Welch, Peter Tibando, Reg Haney, Cam Cowan, Dave Abrams, John Elstone, Allan Green, Francis Sharon, Al Lee, Alf Connor, and Wes Warden. Current president Gary Pennington welcomed them to the head tables.



During lunch the past presidents were introduced and the membership honoured them. (see "President's" on page 4)

## President's Remarks

submitted by Gary Pennington

Thanks to members who submitted ideas or **feedback** to the Board either through our email survey or the suggestion box. Identified suggestions will receive a response.

Curling is one of the most social sports and we also offer a Golf Day, euchre and bridge, luncheons to name a few activities. If you would like to see this expanded to include for instance **group rates to professional team games** or a **summer Pub Lunch** let us know.

We are pleased to have a healthy number of **new members** this year. We will be surveying all **new members** of Venerables at the end of the season to solicit your views and how we can make it better for you next year. Think about it.

Congratulations to the organizers of the **VCC for a terrific season** – Carson, John, Gary, Peter and others. On to SEMUT!

Good curling all – Venerables is the **"best kept secret for senior men"** – spread the word to friends and neighbours!

## Valentine Bonspiel

submitted by Gary Sampson

The Valentines Bonspiel with the **Day Ladies** was held on Tue. Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> with 58 curlers participating. Many dropped out at the last minute due to illness so we had a number of 3 man/woman teams. First place went to Cam Cowan's team (Marion Taylor, Gail Slocum). Ron Wilson's team came second (Carol Skewis, Stan Ellis, and Shirly Samis). Barb Fernandez's team finished third place (Ken Waddell, Thomas Reid, & Brock Stackhouse). In fourth place Alison Harris's team (Dave Wilmot, Gay McKellar, George Fernandez).

## Upcoming Events

[tamheathervenerables.com/calendar](http://tamheathervenerables.com/calendar)

March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Memorial Spiel sign-up
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Fifth Euchre Night
March 25 <sup>th</sup>	Stu Wheeler Classic
April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Sixth Euchre Night (no joke)



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## **Tanzania Read 4 Success Update**

submitted by Gary Mandel

Dear friends,

Our sincere thanks to all of you for donating to our project to purchase textbooks for schools in Tanzania. With your help, we have made great progress.

In October 2014, I travelled to New York City to present John Kavishe and Salome Lally, co-directors of Mwangaza Partnership,



with a cheque for \$2000 U.S. With this donation, Ngateu Secondary School was able to purchase every textbook they needed plus some supporting material.

Mwangaza Partnership is overseeing the distribution and management of these textbooks, stamping each

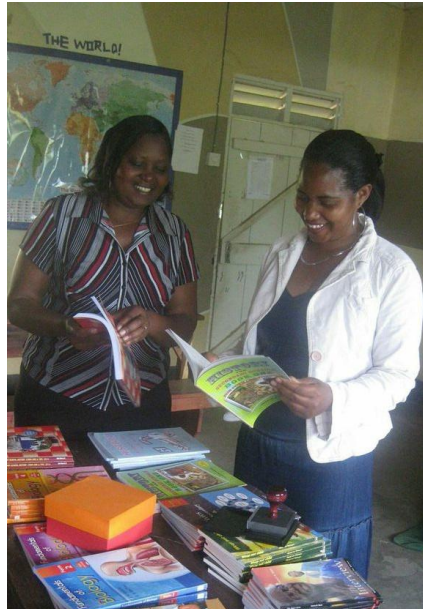
one to identify them as gifts from our organization, *Tanzania Read 4 Success*.

Our focus now turns to fundraising for Likamba Primary School near Arusha. We met with the teachers and toured Likamba during our visit to Tanzania. As a small school in a farming community, their need for textbooks is critical.

Your financial support will greatly and positively impact the students and teachers at Likamba. To date we have raised almost \$1,000 from new donors and from people who supported our efforts last year.

We hope our fundraising efforts for Likamba will be just as successful as for Ngateu.

Together, we will make a difference for these young students! If you wish to make a donation, please make your cheque payable to **Tanzania Read 4 Success** and give it to me or leave it with Janet in the Tam office.



## **2015 ANNUAL GOLF DAY**

**MONDAY, JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>  
ANNANDALE GOLF CLUB**

**Scramble format, Shotgun Start 11 am**

- Price (same as last year): Venerables \$85, Guests \$90 includes Green Fees, Golf Cart, Golf Cart Package (3 golf balls, Water, Energy bars, tees) and Dinner
- Applications will be processed on a first come, first served basis for Venerables and Guests – limit 144 players
- Each team must contain at least one current or one past Venerable
- Guests must be fifty or over
- Prizes for winners (first, second and third) and 1 in 4 chance at a Draw Prize
- 50:50 draw
- Sign-up as a full team, threesome, twosome or individual and we'll fit you in
- Rules and marshals to help speed play
- Dinner at 5:30 pm

**Applications Forms can be found in the Venerables rack outside the Tam Office.**

Register Early to avoid disappointment – Sign-up ends on Memorial Spiel Friday or earlier, if all positions are filled.

Completed applications should be deposited in the envelope outside the Tam Office together with a current dated cheque (payable to Tam Heather Venerables) for the full amount of the number of individuals (Venerables and/or guests) being entered.

**Entries will not be considered until full payment is received.**

For more information contact: Andrew Lamb, Vice President at [alamb@rogers.com](mailto:alamb@rogers.com) or 416 282 4211



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## Ice Techs Report

*submitted by John Elstone*

Continuing with our themed articles, this one will give you information on the major maintenance performed on the ice over the holiday break every season. There are 3 major steps (Cut, Burn and Flood) in the whole process, along with a couple final steps.

### The Cut

You may have noticed a red machine sitting at the top of the staircase leading from the ice pad down to the basement locker rooms. This is our cutter. Basically, this machine runs along the entire ice surface and cuts down our ice thickness to our desired amount. Usually we cut between a ¼" to ½" off our surface. We like to keep the thickness between 1" and 1½".

### The Burn

After the cut, the ice is left very jagged and uneven. We use our burner to melt the top layers of the ice in order to both smooth and clean deep below the surface. All the dirt that the burner gets to, floats to the surface while the ice is freezing and allows us to scrape it off when the surface becomes ice again.

### The Flood

The burn is not a leveling tool. It is purely a cleaning step, as well as to smooth the surface from the cut. Once we have the ice smooth and clean after the burn, we need to put a flood on which will level the ice as close as possible to perfect.

### Final Steps

After the flood, the ice will not be perfectly level, but it will be close. The final steps are to scrape and pebble using certain patterns to take down hills or valleys that we know are in the ice. We will go through a little more about scraping patterns in our next article.

And, the final step is we re-texture our rocks. We will go through more about texturing rocks in a future article. But, what you should know is that after the texturing of rocks is complete, their running surfaces are very sharp. Because of this, you may notice that your rocks are picking up the opposite turn. For this to not occur, it is extremely important that you put enough rotations on your rock when you deliver it. The OCA (Ontario Curling Association) recommends that you put between 2½ to 3½ rotations on your rock for the complete length of the sheet. If you have less than 2½ rotations, your rock will probably pick up the opposite turn.

Don't forget that if you have anything you would like us to write about in these articles, please come and have a chat with anyone part of the ice technician team. We look forward to your feedback!

*Nick Samoy, Jason Leneeuw and Luc Barber - Tam Heather Ice Technicians*

## Euchre Results

*submitted by Reg Haney*

We had a turnout of 48 for our February euchre session. The top lady with a score of 62 was Lynn Bowles and close behind in the second spot was Gail Roden with a card showing a score of 60. Our most honest lady was Cathy Ford (big surprise).

The gents were led by Ken Waddell and his score of 62 and second place went to Bill Harron who posted a score of 60. Most honest guy was Al Lee.

The most lone hands winner was Julie Messina with three. There was a 5-way tie and Julie had her card drawn to settle on a winner. Betty Murphy had her ticket drawn to win the 50/50 draw.

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## 2015/15 Applications Forms

Application forms for next season are now available at the club.

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## Guest Curler Waivers

In order to allow potential new members the opportunity to try curling, we offer a free trial period. Individuals who are not Venerable members may come to 3 tag draws at no charge. Before going onto the ice, however, all non-members must sign the Venerables **Guest Curler Waiver** to assume liability for their actions.

Also, from time to time, Venerable members may want to bring a grandchild to the club to try the game. In these situations, a Venerables Guest Curler Waiver must be completed and signed by the Parent/Legal Guardian (not grandparent) of the child before stepping on the ice.

**Guest Curler Waivers** are available at the back of the Tag Board.

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## Something to Think About

One suggestion recently found in our **Suggestion Box** was to make a donation to the Food Bank whenever a member comes up short of the hog line. Food for thought?



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## HISTORY (or maybe HISTRIONICS)

submitted by Jack Grant

Back in the days of yore, there laboured mightily at the Scarborough Board of Education one Edward Burnett who was employed as a carpenter. Said Edward journeyed from school to school installing cupboards, repairing doors and such other jobs as were needed.

At one of the schools there was a certain principal named James Young who requested the services of a carpenter from time to time. One of these occasions was the installation of a chalkboard. Now I must tell you the stature of these two gentlemen. James stood six foot seven inches (a veritable giant) and Edward a mere three foot sixteen (*no comments please*). While Edward was struggling mightily with the chalkboard, James entered the classroom and seeing Edward's plight reached over his head and took hold of the chalkboard saying "May I help you?" We have never been told what happened or what was said after this occurred but we can all picture things in our minds.

Fast forward to 2007. Gainful employment is over for both men and they are curling. James at Avonlea and Edward at Tam Heather. Sadly Avonlea closed its doors for good in April and their curlers looked for another club. James (and quite a few other Avonlea members) opted to join the Venerables. On the first Monday curling date in October one James Young was seen standing behind the glass watching the W group action on F ice with a number of his ex-Avonlea members when a certain three foot sixteen inch gentleman entered the lounge and recognized said James Young. Ed grabbed a chair and pulled it up behind James and stood on the chair! Now Ed is TALL! He's a gigantic five foot twenty three inches!! Ed tapped Jim on the shoulder and said looking down at him, "I want to talk to you." They both skipped so as one of the Z group Boardmen at the time I saw to it that they played against each other from time to time knowing that strange things might happen. One time Jim was holding the broom for his man and Ed tapped him between the legs and said "Spread 'em guy, I want to see what's going on." Another time I am told that Ed jumped right into Jim's arms! Such goings on were commonplace between those two.

Now let's go back to about the 2004 season when curling with the "Stick" was gaining popularity. The weapon of the day was "The

Downer Curling Cue" made by Eric Downer. Ed sought my help in learning the fine art of using it but found the weapon awkward for him because he felt that it was too long. Ed went to Eric with his problem and said "Eric, it's not that I'm too short but the stick's too long!" Eric said "I think I can fix your problem." The stick was exactly right for Ed and gave rise to one of Ed's many nicknames "Short Stick Burnett" which he was not particularly fond of. So let the record show that Ed is the possessor of a "Short Stick" and possibly the only one in existence. (get your minds out of the gutter) Sadly Eric Downer passed away in 2006 and Jim Young in 2010. Nowadays Ed has been known to prank his onetime boss and present day sidekick Don Sommerville. And that folks is the **Long** and **Short** of it all.

### "President's " (from page 1)

The President's Spiel is always the occasion to recognize the exceptional contribution of individuals to the ongoing good governance and stability of the club.

A Venerable Appreciation Award was presented this year to Peter for his dedication and sustained contribution to the club.



Thanks go out to Gary Norris, Jack Grant, Peter Tibando and Dal Wrigley for a great bonspiel.

### Anything to contribute?

Please contribute items of interest or results of bonspiels, etc. to Tony Damiani either by email to [antoniodamiani@rogers.com](mailto:antoniodamiani@rogers.com) or by envelope to the CoffeeBreak folder by the office.