



# Venerables CoffeeBreak



Fall Edition – November 2013

## Annual Veterans Appreciation Day services well attended by all groups

Observances of our yearly tribute to armed service veterans and those currently serving were begun with the Y group ceremony on Thursday November 7. When their game was finished the Mixed Seniors joined the Venerables for the service. As in previous years, WWII navy Veteran Art Corby and Reg Haney led the assembly through the program. Reg began with the reading of the poem “Why I wear a poppy” followed by giving some information on etiquette as it applies to the wearing of the poppy. Art followed with an interesting account of how the poem “In Flanders Fields” by Lieutenant Colonel John McRae came to be. He then recited the Act of Remembrance after which the memorial bell sounded followed by a moment of silence, and, as is our custom, the silence was broken with Art reading “In Flanders Fields”



concluding the service.

On Monday November 11 a combined X and W group ceremony conducted by Director at Large, Gary Sampson and Vice President Gary Pennington observing both Remembrance Day and Veterans Appreciation Day was held. At precisely 11a.m. Gary Sampson sounded the Memorial bell 11 times followed by Gary Pennington’s reading of “Why I wear a poppy”. He then introduced WWII veteran Monte Miller who recited The Act of Remembrance. After sounding the bell once to initiate a moment of silence Gary Sampson read McRae’s emotional poem to bring the program to conclusion. For the Z group on Monday afternoon the two Garys again delivered an observance. Assisting with the program *(continued on page 2.)*



## President’s Remarks

A big HELLO and WELCOME to all our new members. These include in alphabetical order:

Bob Atkinson Y, Alex Browning Y, Harold Bugdahn Z, Doug Bull Z, Kevin Cahill W, Ken Carty Y, Fred Chega Y, David Crichton W, Tony Damiani Z, Don Eto Y, David Heasman W, Al Johnson Z, Alan King W, John Lynn Z, Jim Montagnes Z, Doug Muir X, Bill Sheehan W, Terry Smith Y, Jim Tebo W, Alex Telfer W, Wayne Todd W, Lloyd Twyford W, Ian Valentine Z, John Wills Z.

For these new members, and for all of you, I want to emphasize safety on the ice as we recently had a member fall and break his wrist.

Curling by its nature can result in injury. We have outlined some good rules to follow in our safety tips on page 2 of the curling schedule.

Please read it as it outlines in detail a lot of good tips on how to curl safely and avoid accidents.

Remember your safety is your responsibility. Safe Curling!

### Damiano reminds us:

“November is Prostate Cancer month, better known as Movember. Movember is changing the face of men’s health by challenging men to grow a moustache to help raise funds and awareness for prostate cancer. November is here and I will be participating in our annual Movember. I will be growing my moustache for the month of November in support of prostate cancer. Watch the progress as my moustache begins to grow. You can show your support by donating at the kitchen window by slipping any extra change into the change counter. You can donate on your own at the Movember web site by using team DNCatering. All funds raised by Movember go to Prostate Cancer Canada. Last year we raised over \$500, so let’s donate and watch my Mo grow.”



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## University of Toronto Varsity Sports honour Ron and Betty Murphy

*Includes extracts from the U of T's bio of Ron Murphy*

At the season's final game of the University of Toronto's Varsity Blues football team on Saturday October 26 a very special tribute was paid to Betty and Ron Murphy. In recognition of Ron's many



years as the coach of the Blues and involvement in the University's sports programs a scholarship was launched in their names. Named "The Ron and Betty Murphy Football Award of Merit" it is a scholarship awarded annually to a Varsity Blues football student athlete who has demonstrated excellence in football and has outstanding leadership qualities.

Some Venerables may not be aware that Ron himself was a member of the Varsity Blues football coaching staff when the team won the inaugural Vanier Cup title in 1965, Ron Murphy spent 17 seasons

(1966-82) as head coach and is the Blues all-time leader in career coaching victories (93).

Under his guidance, the Blues won *(continued on page 3.)*

## Well Attended Veteran's Appreciation Days

*(continued from page 1)*

was WWII veteran Alex Smith reading The Act of Remembrance. Z



group veterans also include Vic Tromba, Morley Lumley and Peter Cant.

Because November 11 very often falls on a non-curling day, the Veterans Appreciation Days program was introduced to the Club some years back as a means for each group to stand together with bowed

heads in gratitude for those who have served, and are currently serving, to secure our freedoms. Many of our Venerables are, and were, amongst those heroes.

## Scarboro Golf Club Visit a Real Eye-opener

*Submitted by Bryan Belyea*

Wednesday, October 30th saw twenty Venerables arrive at the Scarborough Golf Club for the "away leg" of annual interclub visit. At 10 am the games began. Scarboro took an early lead on most sheets and the debacle continued with only one Tam Heather



team winning their game. However, the day's bragging rights go to Scarboro as the club that scored the most points overall.

Thanks to Cam Cowan and his team of Fred Huggett, John Wills and Ralph Jeffers for being the only victor on the ice beating the team skipped by Norm Rhora by a score of 8 to 5 (yes, Norm is a member of both clubs).

After the game teams enjoyed lunch together and left with the promise to meet at Tam in the New Year. As the organizer for Scarboro mentioned after the games, "let's just say that for every point that Tam Heather scored, Scarboro had 1.5 points".

***A self-important piece of rope walked into a bar. He'd had a rough day and was quite worn. He waited to be served, but began to feel he was being deliberately ignored. After fifteen minutes he really got himself in a twist and demanded of the bar tender.***

***"Are you going to serve me? Do you know who I am?"***

***The bar tender looked at him for a moment "a frayed knot".***





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## Know your Venerables Board – Part 1

The members of the Board of Directors serve 3-year terms and set the policies & procedures for the club. In order to introduce the Directors to the membership, each was asked a series of questions. What follows is a profile of 5 of them (the remainder will be profiled in the next issue).

**Ed Welch, President.** Outside of his interest in curling, Ed enjoys woodworking, golf and his cottage since retiring from a career in management with an industrial gas company. A highlight of the Venerables for Ed is the friendliness of the members and as President he would like to make changes that will enhance the club and last for years to come. Ed has a self-deprecating sense of humour we all enjoy as evidenced in his answer when asked ‘what is something we don’t know about you?’ he replied. “I am handsomer than I look.”

**Gary Mandel, Membership Chair.** When not curling, Gary likes doing gardening and home renovations along with foreign travel where he gets to meet the locals in countries he visits. Before retirement Gary was a high school educator *(continued on page 4.)*

## U of T Varsity Sports honours the Murphys

*(continued from page 2)*

league titles in 1967 and 1974, and posted only one losing season. Ron was named the CIAU coach of the year in 1974, as the Blues were Vanier Cup finalists and set a U of T record for season victories (10) which stood until 1993. During his tenure, the Blues produced thirteen CIAU all-Canadians and 110 Ontario all-stars.

After stepping down as head coach in 1983, Ron undertook several administrative challenges within U of T’s former Department of Athletics and Recreation, including co-ordinator of the academic counselling program for intercollegiate athletes and advisor to the Blues curling teams.

Ron returned as an assistant coach from 1986-93, winning his second Vanier Cup in 1993. In 1993, he received the prestigious John S. McManus Award in recognition of his coaching contributions to university sport. The following year, Ron received the U of T’s Thomas L. Loudon Award, which is presented annually for outstanding services in the advancement of athletics. In 2009 Ron was inducted into the University of Toronto Athletics Hall of



Fame. The Murphy’s are long-time members here at the Tam.

The University of Toronto’s recognition is well deserved and we extend congratulations to you both -- a nice honour for a great couple.

## A classic Fall Classic

*Submitted by Ed Welch*

A good time was had by the fourteen mixed teams made up of Day Ladies and Venerables gentlemen who competed in the Annual Fall Classic fixture on Tuesday, November 12th.



After doing the math the Matsunaga team was the top team with 133 points:

Shirley Matsunaga	Skip
Robert Cumming	Vice
Joan Neilson	Second
Jim Harlow	Lead

Bob Griffiths’s team came in second with 122 points. The team of Mel Crossley was third with 120 points. Cam Cowan’s team snuck into fourth with 102 points. Once again Bob Griffiths was among the winners probably because he presents the ladies on his team with a rose before they curl. A delicious soup and sandwich lunch followed the Bonspiel. Thanks to Pam Elliott, Debbi O’Hearn, Pierre Lemieux and Dal Wrigley for organizing a terrific spiel despite the last minute cancellations.

## Anything to contribute?

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



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## Know your Venerables Board – Part 1

*(continued from page 3)*

teaching World Issues/Environmental Studies. The camaraderie of our club and the flexibility of the tag draw are features of the club that he enjoys. As Membership Chair his goal this year is to see the number of members increase. He is particularly proud of the fact that he initiated and led the Toronto International Music Festival for high school students for almost 35 years.

**Don Tyrell, Bonspiel Chair.** As this is written Don is travelling in New Zealand with his wife on a vacation he organized to see and do some unusual things like horseback riding in the mountains and taking train trips to connect with the 'Kiwi's'. Besides travel Don has a passion for golf and gardening. Don's career was in Information Technology with TD Bank and before that at IBM. He thinks curling is a great way to keep active during the winter as well as to socialize with different team members each day. As Bonspiel Chair he is hoping to get better participation in our club 'spiels' and, with better ice conditions this year, he hopes we are able to sustain our 'invitational spiels'. One thing most of us wouldn't know about Don is that he once walked all the way to the bottom of the Grand Canyon and back in one day – that's over 21 miles in distance and one mile in elevation. The next day he and his buddy on the trip were so sore they had to ride with the wheelchair visitors at the Hoover Dam!

**Al Gibson, Facilities Chair.** Outside of curling Al engages in golf and photography and has delighted members this fall by posting photos on the tag board and TV of our members curling. During his career Al worked in the oil industry with Imperial Oil, Environment Canada and as a self-employed fuel supply broker. Although he played baseball at a skilled level earlier, he is excited to be learning a new sport at this stage of his life. His hope for his time on the Board is to promote effective working relationships. His favourite quote is "when the student is ready the teacher will appear"

**Gary Pennington, Vice President.** Gary enjoys tennis, euchre and choral singing when not curling. His passion in his career was teaching at the high school and university levels in Toronto and in overseas settings in International Schools in India and China. The social aspects of seniors' curling are what interests Gary although the fitness part is appreciated too. As Vice President he enjoys organizing events and working with Board members. Something we might not know about Gary is that he has travelled around the world about 13 times and visited over 80 countries in the process. He is married to Sherrill and has 7 grandkids.

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**Don't forget to buy your tickets to the Venerables Christmas Party – December 11<sup>th</sup>. Laughter, music and fun for all.**

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## First Euchre Night of the season had a 64 player turnout

On Tuesday evening November 5<sup>th</sup> Ron and Betty Murphy hosted their first of this season's six ever popular euchre evenings. The next game will be held on Tuesday December 3<sup>rd</sup> and the balance of games will be on the first Wednesday of January through to April.

The ladies posted some nice scores with Nancy Jemmett taking first with a 60. There was a tie for second between Anita Waddell and Hats Miyazaki which was decided in Anita's favour by a score card draw. Most honest lady was Beth Wilmot.

Duane Richards was top guy with a 59 and in a draw to decide second between Norm Sudoma and Robert McLeod the card of Norm was picked. Alex Smith was our most honest gent.

Clare Seely had a respectable five lone hands and took that prize envelope.

Prior to the awarding of prizes Venerables Vice-President Gary Pennington addressed the assembly and thanked Betty and Ron and Reg Haney for their continuous involvement and presented each of them with a letter and token of appreciation on behalf of the Board. All three expressed their appreciation at this unexpected recognition.

The 50/50 ticket drawn by Alex Smith belonged to Jim Britten -- a nice pay-off amounting to \$62.

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### Upcoming Events:

December 2<sup>nd</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> Xmas Fun Spiel  
December 3<sup>rd</sup> Second Euchre Night  
December 11<sup>th</sup> Venerables Christmas Party  
December 16<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup> Turkey Shoot  
December 21<sup>st</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> no Curling  
December 28<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> TCA Juniors  
January 8<sup>th</sup> Third Euchre Night  
January 20<sup>th</sup>- 24<sup>th</sup> Presidents Spiel  
Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays!

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