



Venerables CoffeeBreak



Fall Edition – November 2014

FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN

ARE YOU READY TO PLAY

S.E.M.U.T.

(SEASON ENDING MIXED UP TOURNAMENT)

Our intention is to keep the interest as high as possible on Fridays after the VCC is finished. We have a different kind of Tournament planned for you.

Introducing: **S.E.M.U.T.**

Play will be in the 11:15 Timeslot on Fridays Feb. 20th & 27th, Mar. 13th & 27th

Participants must be **Tam Heather Venerables.**

First, you will register for the position you choose to play. Sign-up is between Jan 27 and Feb 1. We need 8 Teams (32 Curlers). The organizing committee will randomly select players for the 8 teams and their selection will then be the lineup for the first game. After this first random team selection, no one will play with the same players again for the rest of the tournament.

You will collect points as an individual - 2 for a win, 1 for a tie and 0 for a loss. To make it more interesting, we will collect a \$12.00 Entry Fee.

32 Curlers X \$12.00 = \$384.00 for Prize Money.

Add up your Points after the 4 games and receive \$3.00 per point.

In the coming months updated information will be posted on the Venerables' Bulletin Board and announcements will be made by the Board Captains.

We welcome all dialogue, questions and opinions.

Please direct them towards the **S.E.M.U.T.** organizing committee of: **John Elstone, Don Hills, John Harzenetter, Peter Tibando and Ryk Weber**



President's Remarks

This season, as part of our recruiting efforts, your Board of Directors dropped off brochures at over 30 Community Centres and Libraries. The response in new members easily covered the cost of the printing.

Our **overall membership is 258** and with past experience new members continue to join throughout the year. Thanks to all for your referrals! In each issue we will feature names of new members. In this issue we welcome: **Arthur Leganchuk** and **Gerry MacDonald**, X group; **Morgan Dever** and **Barry Roden**, Y group; **Reg Pembleton, Greg Tracey, Randy Cheung, Richard Allgood** and **Brian Booth** W group; and **Ron Den Houdyker** in Z group. Welcome to each of you – we are glad you made the choice to be part of the Tam Heather Venerables.

Please continue to talk up membership – **after January 1st, 2015, the fee for new members drops by over 40%.** . Our "**Learn to Curl Clinic**" continues as long as there are candidates for it.

Help to Organize the Club

Archives *Submitted by Ed Koen*

The club storage room contains historical documents (minutes of meetings, financial statements, correspondence, etc.) and artifacts that have accumulated since 1978. Unfortunately, the filing system has been inconsistent over the years, ranging from very good to not so good depending on the year.

An initial purging of most duplications and non-essential items was completed last spring and the material is roughly organized by year. We need one or more members with an interest in archival record keeping to help sort through this material and set up a system for future years so that our history is not lost. We would like to be able to publish that history.

Anyone with ideas in how we can accomplish this, please contact the current club secretary Ed Koen of Z group at 416-447-3942 or edkoen@rogers.com



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Board Captains play a Vital Role

Submitted by Al Gibson

The Venerables Board of Directors would like to express a special thank you to our Tag Board Captains. Their efforts to keep most of us Tag curlers happy most of the time is critical to the on-going success of our Club. Your current Board Captains are:

- W Group **Gord Wells and Bob Jackson**
- X Group **Ken Waddell and Clare Seeley**
- Y Group **John Harzenetter and Ralph Jeffers**
- Z Group **John McInall and Don Sommerville**

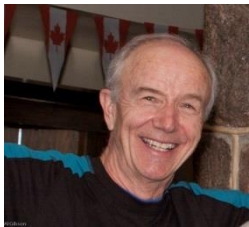
In this edition of CoffeeBreak, we are featuring a light-hearted profile of three of our Board Captains:



Gord Wells, W Group Board Captain---Gord has been a Venerable for more than 25 years and a Board Captain for well over ten of those years. He was born in North Bay, Ontario, and moved as a youth to Temiscaming, Quebec, and later to numerous other towns in Ontario with his family throughout his formative years.

Gord, spent his work career in the steel industry retiring as V.P. Sales in the mid-1990s. When he retired his company asked him to come back and work on a contract basis. He agreed with one important stipulation---curling would be the priority and the work hours had to be agreed upon in accordance with his curling schedule.

Gord and his wife Pat have five children and four grandchildren. He says life is good and he enjoys the fellowship realized through the Venerables curling club. Gord asks the question---“why do elephants lie on their back with their legs in the air?-----to trip the birds.”



John Harzenetter, “Y” Group Board Captain—when John was a lad of 18, he and his friend decided to come to Canada from their native Germany, just for a couple of years for some adventure and to make a little money. With practically no English to speak of, he had to take a job on a Tobacco farm in Tillsonburg,

Ontario.--what a dirty job that was. He then found out that he could get a much better paying position as a “Stripper” in Toronto and the fringe benefits would be fantastic. So off he went to the big city. Everything was as promised. But then things got a little complicated-- before his self-imposed two year stint in Canada was up, John met his sweetheart and future wife Ellen--his return to Germany came to a screeching halt.

..... Oh, are you wondering about his stripping (continued on page 4.)

Venerables Recognize all who Serve in our Annual Observance

Submitted by Reg Haney

Our annual tribute to the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces took place on Monday November 10 and on Tuesday the 11th. This year’s ceremony initiated a revision to the standard program in order to include recognition of the contributions made by all those men and women currently serving to protect us, including those in the uniforms of our Police and Firefighters.

On Monday morning the 10th, the combined X and W groups paid homage in a service hosted by Tony Damiani assisted by 94 year



old WWII Veteran **Monte Miller**. Reg Haney read ‘The Act of Remembrance’ and ‘In Flanders Fields’.

Monday afternoon Andrew Lamb conducted the program for the Z group with the assistance of Tony Damiani and WWII Veteran Alex Smith who gave the recital of ‘The Act of Remembrance’. After the ringing of the Memorial Bell and a moment of silence Andrew read ‘In Flanders Fields’ and concluded the service with a hope that one day there will be a world at peace.

On Remembrance Day, the 11th of November, WWII Navy Veteran Art Corby and Reg Haney teamed up as usual to do the ceremony for the Y group, with the Day Ladies joining in. A poem entitled ‘The Last Inspection’ was read describing a veteran standing awaiting God’s judgment. Art then followed with ‘The Act of Remembrance’ and after Reg sounded the (continued on page 4)



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Maintaining the Best Ice Possible

Welcome back! Let's start with an update on the new additions to our curling ice, and finish with a few reminders.

- 1) You will have noticed that new removable hacks were installed this season. These help us maintain the hacks and keep the surrounding areas clean. However, they are more fragile than the previous ones so we need your cooperation to help stop rocks from hitting them. Please remove the hacks at the far end any time that you are going out to throw practice rocks.
- 2) The club has purchased two brand new 7 foot nippers. We can now nip a full sheet of ice in 2 passes which will help speed up draw changes.
- 3) You might have noticed the new houses in the middle of sheets E and H. These were installed at the request of our Little Rocks section.
- 4) Finally, we have four new assistant ice technicians this year whom you might have already met. They are Scott Moore, David Hart, David Sun and Cole Reynolds. Please make them feel welcome.

We'll close by giving a few reminders and suggestions as to how the curlers might be able to help us keep the ice conditions up to par:

Please note: grippers should be changed AT LEAST every second year and brush heads AT LEAST every season, and more often based on how much you curl. **Check them now!**

When you start your game, cool down your slider BEFORE you take a slide out of the hack. All it takes is one slide up the dividing line from the back line to the hog line and back again. Then, you won't kill the pebble on your first slide.

Try and keep your hands and knees off the ice as much as possible

Please pay attention to the signs downstairs regarding which doors to use in your street shoes and which doors in your curling shoes. This helps minimize the amount of dirt that finds its way onto the ice.

Please cancel your ice if you are unable to play. We are trying to keep the pebble to an absolute minimum. If we pebble your sheet and you don't show up, it makes it difficult for the next curlers and for maintenance the next day.

If you have any information for us, please stop and talk to us or you can e-mail us at: curling.liaison@tamheather.ca. We're always willing to listen. Good Curling!

Nick Samoy, Jason Leneeuw and Luc Barber

Tam Heather Ice Technicians

Support Damiano and his crew's Prostate Cancer Campaign by donating at the Snack counter or online at the Movember web site by using team DNCatering at CA.Movember.com

Day Ladies Fall Classic *by Ed Welch*

Eight teams of Ladies and eight teams of Venerables played off in a two game Bonspiel on Tuesday, Nov 18th. This was a new format of ladies against men. **Cam Cowan** and his team of **Fred Huggett** - Vice, **Wally Kosciejew** - Second, and **Bob Atkinson** - Lead won with the highest score, 139 points. The team of **Claire Seeley** came in second with a score of 133. **Brian Belyea's** team was third with a score of 120. **Mel Crossley's** team was fourth with a score of 116.

The Ladies say "Don't be smug. We'll get you next time". The 50:50 draw was won by **Wayne Todd**; wife **Marg** has a restaurant in mind with the winnings. A delicious soup and sandwich lunch was provided by Damiano. Thanks go to Pam Elliott, Debbie O'Hearn, Peter Tibando, Jack Grant, Dal Wrigley and Gary Norris for an excellent Bonspiel.

Season's first euchre evening results

Submitted by Reg Haney

The popular **Ron** and **Betty Murphy** monthly euchre games kicked off with a turnout of 48 players on the evening of November 4.

Ladies champ with a score of 64 was **Donna Sutton**, followed closely by second place winner **Beth Wilmot** with a card showing a 62. In the most honest lady category we had a tie between **Donna Britten** and **Christine Hills**. To decide the envelope recipient a draw was made and Donna was the lucky winner.

Men's high score was recorded by **Dave Wilmot** on a card totaling 64. Dave also had six lone hands (*continued on page 4.*)

Upcoming Events:

December 2nd Second Euchre Night
December 10th Venerables Christmas Party
December 15th-16th Turkey Shoot
December 17th Xmas Skins Spiel
December 20th-22nd & 24th-26th No Curling
December 28th-30th TCA Juniors
December 31st & 1st No Curling
January 7th Third Euchre Night
January 19th- 23rd Presidents Spiel
Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays!



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Board Captains' Vital Role *(continued from Page 2)*

job? Well, he continued that for the rest of his working days, until he finally got too old and the computers started to take over...Now get your mind out of the gutter; he worked as a "film stripper" in the Lithography trade.

When John retired 17 years ago, a colleague convinced him to take up curling, which he reluctantly accepted, but he fell in love with the sport right away, and the rest as they say is history. John has three married daughters and eight grandchildren. Ellen and he are still quite the travellers, Europe and the Caribbean their favourite destinations.



Ken Waddell, X Group Board Captain—*Ken is a compulsive tinkerer--enjoys woodworking and does all his own personal repairs. He has done many jobs for friends as a general handyman. He started working for the federal government at the Bank of Canada after graduating from grade 13. Three years later, in 1964, with a looming transfer to Ottawa about to be announced, Ken joined the Metropolitan Toronto Police Force. That became*

his lifelong work until retirement in June 1990. Now "WORK" is a four letter word. After years of Ron Warren's persistent nagging to join a curling league, Ken finally relented only to discover that the sport was rewarding both physically and socially.

He finds his current duties as an X Group Board Captain—encompassing the setting up of teams and matches, as well as the interaction with all members of X Group, to be both challenging and rewarding. Ken's favourite saying "THAT'S WHY I GET PAID THE BIG BUCKS".

The role of Board Captain is one prime example of how those who volunteer to play a role in the running of your club make it better for all of us. **If you are willing to play a role as a volunteer, please contact Ed Welch of X Group or any of the current Board of Directors, and let us work with you to find out a role that fits with your interests and availability.**

First Euchre *(continued from page 3)*

making him a double winner. **Tom Heffron** took second with 60. **Alex Smith** wore the most honest gent title on the night. The 50/50 award of \$51 went to **Claudette Morrison**.

We remind all players yet again, -- if you sign up -- please come out. If events cause a change in your plans, then **please scratch your name off or call Ron Murphy ASAP** to cancel. Ron bases his refreshment order on the count showing on the sheet. **No-shows on the night cause a costly over-order. Please help us avoid this. Next game is Tuesday, December 2.**

Appreciating our Veterans

(continued from page 2)

Memorial Bell calling for a moment of reflection. Art read 'In Flanders Fields' concluding the program.

We hope to continue these observances for years to come in order that all Venerables have the opportunity to remember and give silent thanks to all who paid, and are paying, for the freedoms we enjoy.

The **Tony Stacey Centre** located at 59 Lawson Road in Scarborough is the only veterans long-term care facility in Canada that accepts non-serving spouses allowing the couples to remain together. Please consider donating to their "Raise the Roof" campaign online at <https://fundrazr.com/campaign/9rvs7> or by phone at 416 284-3333.

STOP PRESS Wednesday Nov 19th

What's rarer than a hole in one? An eight-ender in curling. Like a hole in one it's a mixture of skill and luck. However, it takes



four players, not just one to realize it. Pictured right to left are Bob Griffith Skip, Andrew Lamb Vice, Roger Davidson Second and Grant Wilson Lead, all of Z group, with their eighth end eight-ender in Wednesday Afternoon's tag draw. Skip Bob Griffith says "I have had many sevens but this is my first eight-ender."

For Lead Grant Wilson this was his third guest game and he is looking forward to joining the Venerables in a few days.