



Venerables CoffeeBreak



October 2016 Edition

Duffers Do Annandale

The golf gods looked down and smiled and the sun burned bright on June 6 as 132 of the best senior men curlers, former curlers and friends descended on Annandale Golf Club for Venerables annual golf day.

Registration proceeded at a brisk pace as Gary Sampson checked them in and the sweet talking Reg Haney twisted arms and picked pockets peddling 50/50 tickets. Peter Tibando scurried around imparting the wisdom he has gained through age and ensuring that every golf cart was well stocked with a loot bag, water and contact info for the nearest masseur. Thanks to Golf Clearance Warehouse, Ron Warren and Metro Ravine Plaza for their kind donations for the loot bags.

The earlier than usual 9.00 a.m. shotgun start did not dampen the enthusiasm of the participants; it simply meant they were bleary eyed even before the bar opened.

Play proceeded at a good pace with the gentle prodding of Ron Warren and an Annandale provided marshal. The course resounded with the sound of players calling out FORE, SWEEP and other language not usually heard at your grandmother's table at Sunday dinner. A newly added challenge for the participants was the Putting for Toonies contest manned by the dynamic duo of Ray Cockburn and Tony Damiani.

Most teams were off the course by 2:30 and proceeded to the bar to hand in scorecards to the ever judicious scorekeeper, Ron Warren, lick their wounds and down a few before an early dinner.

After a warm welcome by the avuncular Andrew Lamb and a heartfelt grace by Gary Pennington the group dined on a delicious spread of chicken, roast beef, vegetable lasagna, salads and desserts.

Dinner having been devoured, it was time for the awards and prizes. Thanks to Steen Thuresen for preserving the event on camera.

Ray Cockburn and Tony Damiani drew names of the draw prizewinners earlier in the day. The organizers thanked the family of Robert John Steel who had donated additional prizes in Rob's memory. Rob continues to be missed by all of us. Bob Black, and Andrew Lamb also contributed to the prize table. Corporate donors to the prize table were Annandale Golf Club and Metro Golf Dome.



After all of the draw prizes had been claimed, Andrew Lamb (seen here in his Tiger Woods outfit) announced the winners of the longest drive (Glen Hill on #18), longest putt (John Gibson on #1 and Brian Belyea on #11) and closest to the hole (Wayne Stefanick on #9 and Barry Moore on #15.) contests. Brian Belyea won \$98.00 in the Putting for Toonies contest.

(see **Golf Tournament** page 2)



President's Remarks

Welcome back curlers. I hope everyone had an enjoyable, summer. It certainly was a great one. And I am sure everyone is now anxious to hurry hard back to the curling rink.

Since we last were all together a lot has been going on. I know that many of you enjoyed some of the summer activities that were hosted by various members and coordinated by Gary Pennington. You can see Gary's reports on these activities below.

As you know we went through a bit of stressful period at the end of last year. So I want you to know your Board has listened to your comments and concerns and has responded in a manner that we believe should be acceptable to everyone. We made certain commitments at the end of last year and we are working to ensure they are all met.

Our first commitment was that we would preserve the status quo of the Friday ice allocations. In other words there will continue to be the same number of Tag Draw sheets available in the 1st time slot and 3rd time slots on Friday as in the past years.

At the same time, we wanted to preserve the Friday team competition that so many of us enjoy. So a small group of Board members spent a lot of time, first on their own and then with input from some respected members of club. The result was to come up with an expanded organizational committee.

I am pleased to announce that through a lot of time spent and the efforts of some great volunteers we have a revised format for Fridays. Our new group is called **Venerables Team Entry Curling** (VTEC). For this purpose we have established a six person coordinating committee that is made up only of Venerables. The individuals involved are Doug Scott, Dave Hampton, Wayne Black, George Fernandez, Reg Pembleton and Jim Thomas as chair. The purpose of having the President act as chair is to ensure that the Board has direct involvement in this committee.

Through the hard work of the VTEC coordinating committee, a new set of Operating Guidelines was created. These Guidelines were presented at the VTEC meeting on Oct. 5 and are available for all to see. At this point there are twenty teams signed up that will play in two Divisions in the first two time slots on Fridays. We intend to monitor any expansion of VTEC to keep the commitment made with respect to ice time allocation.

(see **President's** page 2)

Upcoming Events

Oct 8 Practice Ice 9:00am - 3:00pm

Oct 10 Practice Ice 9:00am - 3:00pm

Oct 14,21,28 - Curling Clinic - 1:45pm

Nov 1 Euchre Night

Nov 9,10 Veterans Appreciation Day(s)

Dec 7 Nostalgia Party

For the complete calendar please visit our website:
tamheathvenerables.com/calendar

Golf Tournament (cont'd from Page 1)

Next, the teams with the lowest scores were announced. In a photo finish two teams finished with the lowest score of three under and two teams with a score of two under. In accordance with the rules of the tournament, winning teams were determined by which team had the most birdies and, that



being equal, by a regression test. Third prize was awarded to John Harzenetter's team made up of John, Ray Thomas, Steen



Thuresen and Gerry Allen two under. Second prize was awarded to John Davidson's team made up of John, Grant Barrett, Fred Huggett and Cam Cowan three under. First prize and the trophy was awarded to the severely depleted Peter Janssen team made up of Peter and Barry Moore, three under (the other two members not being able to attend due to illness).

The final announcement of the night was the long awaited names of the 50/50 draw winners. Reg Haney announced the winners as Ken McKenzie \$140.00, Bill Lam \$205.00 and Mac Dunn \$340.00 drinks all round at Tam gentlemen.

Thanks to Annandale Banquet Manager Christine Cassidy, kitchen and wait staff and Rob Frost golf pro and pro-shop staff. Finally, thanks to all of the participants and our volunteers (in alpha order): Andrew Lamb, Gary Pennington, Gary Sampson, Peter Tibando, Ray Cockburn, Reg Haney, Ron Warren, Steen Thuresen, and Tony Damiani for another successful event.

Jerry Goldhar

SEMUT

Our successful second Annual Season Ending Mixed Up Tournament ended on Friday, April 8, 2016.

Due to popular demand, we increased from 8 teams to 10 teams. Each game was a

new mix of four players. Each Player was awarded \$6.00 for a win and \$3.00 for a tie.

Tied for 1st Place with a payout of \$24.00 was John Ellis, Dusan Lenghardt, and Peter Tibando

Tied for 2nd Place with a payout of \$18.00 was Wayne Black, Kevin Cahill, Don Chalmers, Martin Docherty, John Thompson, Ralph Warren, and Ryk Weber

Tied for 3rd Place with a payout of \$15.00 was Roger Davidson, Jim Downs, Ray Moffitt, Rob Slater



Thank you for your enthusiastic participation. Hope to see you all again in the 2017 S.E.M.U.T.

John Hartenetter

Summer Social Events

As we did in the previous one, we repeated six events for Venerables and friends this past summer based on member input of ideas.

The most popular event has consistently been the Blue Jays game, with a pub gathering before, organized by **Jim DeBoer** (X group). We saw the Jays at their hard hitting best against the World Series winners Kansas City in which there was a grudge to settle for the Jays.

Other events included a participatory gourmet meal in which talented chef **Tom Stephens**, Z group, organized the guys to prepare a part of the meal of our choosing during the afternoon and then we invited a friend or spouse to join us for the meal that evening. Very impressive comments on the offering!

July saw us join a group in a potluck dinner dance enjoyed by all with Dec Party DJ Victor Shim on saxophone. **John Wills**, Z group, organized a happy hour in his home followed by a restaurant outing by the lake including rhythmic Caribbean live music. It felt like a cruise ship -- some of us even tried dancing.

August saw us back at the Black Dog for a rollicking pub lunch with much laughter and joshing -- thanks **Tony Damiani**, Z group, for organizing.

To conclude **Reg Haney** and **Al Gibson**, both of X group, organized the very popular and friendly competitive September Golf Challenge with the Scarborough Seniors league. Close game results for the second year. Of course in the curling tradition, we concluded by announcing prize winners, picture taking and great socializing at the Legion afterwards.

Many thanks to all the organizers and participants, including some very new members, for staying in touch over the summer and promoting fun for members.

Next up, we have another 'nostalgia' music night at the **Venerables December 7th party** -- Johnny Cash, Ricky Nelson, Dean Martin and maybe Elvis again -- mark it on your calendar for another 'sell out' fun night!

Gary Pennington

President's (cont'd from page 1)

To follow up on another commitment, we want to establish an advisory committee to the Board. The purpose here is to have a small group representing each curling section. This group might meet a couple of times a year to bring forward issues from members that may not have otherwise made it to the Board. For this we need volunteers. Please consider it.

And speaking of volunteers, I would like to make a theme for this year *It's Your Turn*. In the survey we issued last year only 25% of the respondents said they would be willing to volunteer to help with Venerables activities. Well I'd like to change that and say *It's your Turn* when we call for volunteers.

Finally, as always, remember that new members are the life blood of our organization. They rejuvenate our ranks and have the most significant effect on our fees. So, put a friend on ice!

Gentlemen, enjoy your curling!

Jim Thomas

A man walks into a pub and sits down next to a man with a dog at his feet.

"Does your dog bite?"

"No."

A few minutes later the dog takes a huge chunk out of his leg. "I thought you said your dog didn't bite!" the man says indignantly.

"That's not my dog."

Introducing Our New Board Members

We are very fortunate to have highly competent members willing to step up to serve on the Board of Directors for a three year term. Below are self descriptions they submitted when asked to introduce themselves to Venerables. **Thank you for this service to the club guys!**

John Wills - Facilities Chair

John retired from George Brown College in 2013 as the Director for the Center for Construction Engineering Technologies.

He was a home builder and construction manager before becoming a professor of Architecture and Construction Management at George Brown College.

John and his wife Noreen have curled at Leaside, Annandale and currently at Tam Heather. They are also avid curling fans and have volunteered at many Curling Championships and Grand Slam events in Canada and Europe.

John has been a Venerable from 2001 to 2006 and again since 2013. He is anticipating a great year of curling and is looking forward to helping the Venerables and the Board on ice related issues in the role of Facilities Chair.

Robert McLeod - Treasurer

Robert was a Chartered Accountant in public practice for 35 years, retiring in 2010. Hobbies include playing and organizing Pickleball and Euchre, and babysitting my grandson.

Robert has been a Venerable for 5 years having taken up curling after retirement. He primarily enjoys the non-competitive nature of the Venerables tag draws.

Harold Bugdahn - Secretary

In his previous life Harold worked for Toronto Hydro as a Protection & Control technician for 35 years. He enjoys skiing and curling in winter and sailing, tennis and golf in summer. Traveling and spending time with family brings great pleasure to Harold as well.

Harold has been a Venerables member for 3 years and really likes the atmosphere at the club.

Every year we have some turnover of Board Members – consider joining the Board at some time in the future – you get a real feeling of satisfaction and involvement. Or at least I did over four years. **Gary Pennington**

Eric Downer Fun Stick Bonspiel

The Eric Downer has traditionally been an Invitational Stick Bonspiel. This year we changed it to an In-house Stick bonspiel. It was a fun event and it gave the opportunity for non-stick players to show their skill with a stick. Approximately half of the curlers in the bonspiel had never used a stick. This event commemorates a former Venerable Eric Downer who was the inventor of the stick.



A good time was had by the sixteen teams who competed in the bonspiel. At the end of the day the winning team was team Belyea: Bryan Belyea (skip), Duane Richards (vice), Don Tyrrell (second) and Bob Freckleton (lead). Bob Jackson's team with Glen Holmes, Rob Lembke, and Dave Wilmot took second place. Third place went to Vic Cuff's team with Peter Cant, Fel Raimondo, and David Hansen. Thanks to Jack Grant, Peter Tibando and Fel Raimondo for organizing and running a terrific bonspiel. **Gary Sampson**

A Well-Attended AGM

As usual more than 100 members came to attend the Venerables Annual General Meeting on September 28th. Club Secretary Harold Bugdahn called the meeting to order and introduced the current Board of Directors. A motion was carried to confirm their appointments for the coming year. After President Jim Thomas delivered his message to the meeting (see President's Message) Past President Andrew Lamb presented well deserved *Past Director* crests to retiring Board members Al Gibson and Ed Koen. He presented Gary Pennington with both a *Past Director* crest and a *Past President* crest. Andrew will be looking to fill positions on the 2017-2018 Board and will also receive written nominations for the Venerables Appreciation Awards.

As first draw prize Chef Damiano has again generously donated a \$50 certificate for dinner at Tam. This was won by Ralph Jeffers. Damiano spoke briefly about the kitchen, the restaurant and the many services they offer including take-out prepared pies. Treasurer Robert McLeod reviewed the Club's Financial position and introduced Club Manager Doug Miller to accept the cheque for the first ice payment and to say a few words about developments at the club.

Membership Chair Gary Sampson said membership was currently at the same point as this time last year, but urged the continuing need to bring in new members. He welcomed the new members by name and then announced the names of those members who have been curling with us for 25 years. They are: Doug Dies, Ian Coulter, Larry Lynch, Francis Sharon, Bob Jackson, Frank Bell, George Roffey, and Stanley Yokota. President Jim Thomas presented their certificates to those who were present.

Vice-President and Bonspiel Chair Fel Raimondo presented the outlook for the coming season. Facilities Chair John Wills reviewed the 2016-2017 Ice Calendar, acknowledged this year's Board Captains and explained the Interclub Curling which will be managed by Al Johnson. Communications Chair Tony Damiani outlined how we are trying to control unnecessary costs by using electronic communications where possible. There will be between five and six issues of CoffeeBreak this season. Ray Thomas reviewed last June's Golf Day and promoted the upcoming December 7th Nostalgia Party which will see Johnny Cash, Dean Martin and Ricky Nelson in addition to Elvis.

Before adjourning the meeting Jim Thomas took questions from the floor and a motion presented by Peter Cant and seconded by Peter Tibando was carried thanking the Board last year for their consummate and clearly proficient execution of their duties and their sensitivity in handling all matters to the benefit of all members.

Other draw prize winners were Clare Seeley, Jim Christie and Bob Jackson. **Andrew Lamb**

An old man moves into a retirement home and meets an old lady. Not long after, he asks her to his room to make out.

She says, "OK".

When they are both naked, she says to him, "be gentle with me because I have acute angina"

He replies "I hope so because your boobs are not much to look at"



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Stu Wheler Classic Invitational

The Venerables hosted our annual invitational Stu Wheler Bonspiel on Wednesday March 23rd. The bonspiel was composed of two draws, the Masters for those over the age of 55 and the Grand Masters for curlers over the average age of 70. Each draw had a six end game and an eight end game.

Masters Draw

Sixteen teams took part in the Masters, composed of 6 teams from Tam Heather and 10 from outside clubs including East York, Whitby, Cricket, Thornhill (2 teams), Toronto Police, Donalda, Bayview CC (2 teams) and Richmond Hill.



Taking first place in the Master's division section was Rob Maddock's team from Cricket, with Jeff Flanagan, Cliff Sparkes and Doug Evans. Second place was Peter Nixon's team from Unionville, with Vic Suzuki, Jeff Bloom and Gord Chisholm. Third place was Ernie Eason's team from Thornhill, with Bob Fry, Gary Elgar and Jim Glover.

Venerables Curling in the TDSMCA

The Toronto District Senior Mens Curling Association (TDSMCA) has been in existence for several years and is an inter-club curling league consisting of six clubs – Donalda Club, East York Curling Club, Leaside Curling Club, Scarborough Golf & Country Club, Richmond Hill Curling Club and the Tam Heather Venerables. Inter-club games are played on Fridays during the season and rotate from club to club. All games start at 1:00PM. Each club provides four players to represent their club, with the games consisting of seven ends. The eighth end is a skills contest roll-off where points are awarded. The winning team receives \$20. Since each player pays \$5 per game to play, you have an opportunity to recoup your \$5.

This year TDSMCA schedule consists of 16 regular games and 2 special events. The season runs Oct. 14, 2016 to Mar. 3, 2017. Since a total of 18 games will be played this season, each participating Club gets to act as the host three times. The two special events are "Scrambles", both of which will be held at Tam Heather; one Dec. 9, 2016 and the other on Mar. 3, 2017. All players and spares in the TDSMCA can participate in these two events. As the word "Scramble" denotes, players from all clubs are mixed. In other words, a Venerable TDSMCA player could end up playing on a team with three other TDSMCA players, all from different participating clubs. The cost to play in a Scramble is usually around \$25 per player. The \$25 you pay includes the cost of the game and a meal afterwards. This is a fun time. The "Scramble" on Mar. 3, 2017 is also the year-end wrap-up for the TDSMCA.

There are currently 12 Venerables playing in the TDSMCA league. As there are a total of 18 games to be played this season, this means that each Tam Heather TDSMCA member has the opportunity to play at least 5 games. The camaraderie is great, you get to meet other club members, and you also get to curl at other curling clubs that you might not normally get to play at. If you are a paid-up Venerables Tam Heather member and you are interested in playing in the TDSMCA league with the other Venerables, either as a regular or a spare, please contact Al Johnson, who plays in the Venerables "Z" group. Al represents the Venerables at the TDSMCA and is taking over from John Wills, who previously held this position.

Al Johnson

Grand Masters Draw

The Grand Masters had sixteen teams, composed of 4 teams from Tam Heather and 12 teams from outside clubs including Oshawa (2 teams), Cricket, Oakville, Kawarthas, Scarborough, Uxbridge, Unionville (2 teams), Whitby (2 teams), and Royals.

In the Grand Master's section, the John Gibson team from Tam, with Bernie Snodofsky, Ross Moodie, and Ron Cowper took first place.



Second place was Bill Fitz's team from Tam, with Ryk Weber, Fritz Glauner, and Lyle Ebata. Third place was the Gerry Gidding's team from Oshawa, with Dave Hughes, Jim Sandberg, and Don Jenkins. A good time was had by all with lots of cash and draw prizes. We want to give special recognition to Sharon Ogden (Ogden Funeral Homes) for their generous financial support.

I would like to thank Reg Pembleton, Jack Grant, Peter Tibando and Ian Valentine for organizing and running a great bonspiel.

Gary Sampson

Fri. Afternoon Curling Clinic

We have again set aside ice for a weekly Curling Clinic on Fridays at 1:45pm. beginning Oct. 14 and running through November if there is sufficient interest.

Please invite any prospective new curler to curl at any time during Tag play and/or to a clinic. Sign-in visitors using the guest curling form located at the back of the draw tag board.

We are asking for Venerables volunteers to help Jim Downs (Coordinator) to demonstrate the sliding delivery from the hack, and help new curlers learn the three basic skills: Balance, Line, & Weight. Please contact Jim Downs or John Wills if you can help us on any or all Friday afternoons in October and November.

John Wills

Anything to contribute?

Please forward items of interest to

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