



Venerables CoffeeBreak



Season Opener Edition – October 2014

President's Message

We had an exciting year last year competing with the best in the province. We are anticipating another excellent year ahead.

My hope is to foster a Venerables experience where **fun & friendship** are the keys. **Our club is 'one big secret'** and we need collectively to get it out to the larger community of men over 50 – what we do offers a terrific opportunity for men in retirement — we offer the antidote to sitting at home bored. **The best recruiters are you the members** – bring a friend, neighbour or relative – referrals are what keep us viable – we gained 24 new members last year, but we lost 20 – net gain 4.

If our membership shrinks – we will pay more for fees, golf days, and bonspiels, and we may have fewer sections to offer you over the week – we have to have lots of new members every year to stay even and in the black - the fewer the members the higher our fees !

Take a new brochure from club rack outside the office and **bring a friend or neighbour** to the Curling Clinic on Friday afternoons at 1:45 pm led by **Jim Skewis** – free of charge.

Highlights of coming year:

- Record number of VCC teams
- Plus **Interclub league** (TDSCMA) approximately one Friday afternoon per month – Contact **John Wills** wills@bell.net or **Ed Koen** edkoen@rogers.com
- **6 Euchre evenings** – prizes & fun with spouses
- Fabulous **December party** with a comedienne & music – sold out last year
- Best **fees, ice conditions and safety record** to match any club

BRING IN THOSE REFERRALS PLEASE

Gary Pennington!

Final Euchre of the Season

Submitted by Reg Haney

There was a good turnout of 56 card players to close out the euchre season on April 2nd.

Marg Turner had a card of 63 points to lead the ladies, and in second place came **Christine Hills** with her score of 57. Our most honest ladies were **Pat Relf** and **Anita Waddell** who tied with scores they are pleased not to have published.

The gents were led by **Fast Eddie Burnett** and his high score of 63. In second spot was **Larry Lyons** and his tally of 62

Alex Smith had the honour of being the *(continued on page 2.)*

Another great Golf Day

By Gary Pennington and Andrew Lamb

There were a few changes as this year's players gathered at Annandale on Monday, June 2nd to celebrate the Tam Heather Venerables Annual Golf Day. Despite a questionable weather forecast conditions turned out fine.

Congratulations to our new **Golf Champions – Larry Lyons, John Elstone, Mike Tichonchuk and Lloyd Twyford**, who came in with a score of 3 under par. There were three closest to the pin Winners - **Ed Welch, David Hansen and Ron Wilson**

In an effort to speed up play the shotgun start was moved forward from noon to eleven a.m. We also added Marshalls to our plan this year and special thanks go to **Carson Klinck, Gary Mandel and Ted Lacelle** for doing this role *(continued on page 4.)*

Memorial brings a fitting close

Submitted by Andrew Lamb

The last full bonspiel of the season is always a hard fought affair and this year was no exception. After the results were tallied the Winners of the Main Event were team Harzenetter: Skip **John Harzenetter**, Vice



Stan Ellis, Second **Dusan Lenghardt** and Lead **George Brcko**. In second Place was team Cuff: Skip **Vic Cuff**, Vice **John Dipede**, Second **Jim Miyazaki** *(continued on page 3.)*



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AGM kicks off a new season on Wednesday, October 1st

Secretary **Ed Koen** called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm with approximately 100 members plus 9 directors in attendance. He outlined the agenda and introduced the Board of Directors.

Incoming president **Gary Pennington** welcomed back all curlers and outlined plans for the coming year which will emphasize continuous improvements in our operations in order to retain present members and to attract new members. Retiring directors **Peter Tibando** and **Don Tyrrell** were presented with past director's crests.

Chef Damiano provided an update on the kitchen facilities and expressed appreciation for the club support throughout the year.

After one of his trademark jokes, Past President **Ed Welch** reviewed the past year's accomplishments including an update of both our constitution and the duties & responsibilities of board members. The motion that *"the amended constitution and directors duties and responsibilities as provided to the membership be confirmed"* was carried. The membership recruitment committee has developed an updated brochure and a program for targeting potential new members. A suggestion box for our members use has been installed outside the office near the application forms rack.

This year's Vice-President **Andrew Lamb** *(continued on page 4.)*

Memorial Ceremony honours past Venerables

Jack Grant asked the members and guests to rise while the names were read out. This year the ceremony was accompanied by a piper playing "Amazing Grace". As each name was read **Francis Sharon** sounded our Memorial Bell to honour their memory.

Those no longer with us are:

Gord Wareham	May 5th 2013	Z Group
William Howe	May 16th 2013	W Group
Douglas Perkins	June 20th 2013	X Group
Frank Munkley	June 21st 2013	Z Group
Ross Oldham	July 9th 2013	Club Manager
Kenneth Holmeshaw	August 27th 2013	Z Group
Joseph Benedetto	September 11th 2013	Y Group
William Kean	October 4th 2013	W Group
Al Crawford	November 12th 2013	Y Group
Carl Day	November 17th 2013	Y Group
Brian Steen	January 11th 2014	X Group
Thomas Millar	February 23rd 2014	Y Group
Alan McKinlay	February 25th 2014	W Group
Alan Malkin	March 23rd 2014	Z Group

At the end of the ceremony a last bell was sounded to acknowledge the unknown Venerables' member that may have passed without our knowledge.

Final Euchre *(continued from page 1)*

most honest amongst the men.

Lone hand winners were **Marg Turner** and **Doreen Jackson**. The 50/50 draw winner took home \$46.

Our 2014/15 euchre sessions will start on Tuesday November 4, with the next on Tuesday December 2. The remaining four games will be on Wednesdays. Watch for the sign-up sheet on the Tag Draw board. Your hosts, Ron and Betty Murphy, look forward to seeing you when play resumes.

Guest teams take honours in the Stewart Wheler Classic

The Stewart Wheler Classic sponsored by Ogden Funeral Homes and Mrs. Helen Wheler took place on March 28th. The Tournament is divided into two Divisions: the Open 55+ draw and the Grand Masters 70+ Draw. Each Division had a total of fourteen teams from across the GTA and Durham. This year the "away" teams took all the glory in both Divisions. Champions in the Open Draw



taking the \$200 prize were the team from the Toronto Cricket Club: Skip Rob Maddock, Vice Jeff Flanagan, Second Cliff Sparks and Lead Doug Evans. The Toronto Police team with Skip Bill Goodchild, Vice Dave Heasman, Second John Epping *(continued on page 3)*



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Memorial Spiel – a fitting close (continued from page 1) and Lead **Fel Raimondo**. In third Place was team Haslam; Skip **Tony Haslam**, Vice **Peter Cant**, Second **Norm Ferguson** and Lead **Steen Thureson**.

The winners of the Consolation Draw were the Weber team: Skip **Ryk Weber**, Vice **Don Hills**, Second **Doug Scott** and Lead **Bob Freckleton**. In second place was the Downs team: Skip **Jim Downs**, Vice **Gary Pennington**, Second **Reid Thomas** and Lead **Dave Andrews** and in third place were team Vangel: Skip **Rudy Vangel**, Vice **Roger Davidson**, Second **Ed Welch** and Lead **Lynn Lefebre**.

Don Tyrrell, this past season's bonspiel chair introduced the special guests at our head table. This year these included **Judy Oldham**, wife of former manager, Russ Oldham, who died last year; **Jennifer Hand**, Russ's right hand for many years and an ever cheerful presence in the office; and **Hanadi Darwish** who currently fulfills that front office role. . As Don reminded us Jennifer always used to say "she felt she had 264 grandfathers in us."

Don then called upon our president, **Ed Welch** to introduce the Memorial Ceremony (see article on page 2). For the last several years this event has not only closed the season but is a time to remember those colleagues who died during the last twelve months. A Memorial Book maintained by Jack Grant listing the names of members that passed over the years was on display for all to see.

Our thanks go to **Gary Norris, Dal Wrigley, Don Tyrrell, Jack Grant, Francis Sharon and Peter Tibando** and all those who made this such a memorable occasion, not forgetting the ice makers, Damiano and the kitchen staff, the office staff and Danny at the bar, and all who contribute so greatly to our enjoyment.

Avonlea Alumni tees it up for "Children's Wish"

Submitted by Ron Cowper, Event Coordinator.

On September 11th 116 golfers teed it up at Whispering Ridge Golf Club for the fifth consecutive year in support of the "Children's Wish Foundation of Canada". This year's edition netted the Foundation \$2500 equaling last year's contribution. By all reports, a good time was had by all as the weather cooperated once again. This year's winner of the "Jim Young Memorial" trophy finishing in first place at 6 under par was the team of **Jim Youngson, Bruce Baird, Brian Duncan and Wayne Price**. Finishing second was **Gene Glazes** team represented by **Eric Milner, Ryk Weber, Carl Grant and Rick Charles** at 5 under par. At 4 under and in third place were **Al Boyle, Norm Hart, Doug Penziwol and Bill Mitchell**. The longest drive went to **Brian Attridge** and closest to the holes went to **Tom Heffron and Bob Black**. Congratulations to all, thank you for the support and hopefully we will see you all on September 9, 2015 when we do it again for "Jims Kids".

Guest teams rule at Wheler Classic

 (continued from page 2)

and Lead **Rick Chase** took second place and took second place and \$180. Third place and \$160 went to Thornhill, Skip **John Francis**, Vice **Bob Hollingshead**, Second **Mike Schulz** and Lead **Ray Murray**.

In the Grand Masters Draw first place and \$200 went to Unionville's **Eric Milne** team,



second place and \$180 went to the Royals **Bud Perry** team and third place and \$ 160 went to Scarborough Golf Club's **Barry Truscott** team. Thanks go to the Bonspiel Committee of **Don Tyrrell, Gary Norris, Dal Wrigley, Jack Grant and Peter Tibando**.

AGM Draw Prize Winners were:

Jim Britten of Z group - a dinner voucher for two.

Carman Chisamore of Z group - LCBO gift card.

Reg Haney of X Group - LCBO gift card

Bob Spencer of Z Group - LCBO gift card

Don Hills of X Group - LCBO gift card

Congratulations to them all!

Upcoming Events:

October 14th Curling begins 'Y' Group

October 15th Curling begins 'W', 'X' and 'Z'

October 17th VCC begins

November 4th First Euchre Night

November 10th/11th Veterans Appreciation

November 18th Fall Classic with the Day Ladies

December 2nd Second Euchre Night

December 10th Christmas Wine and Dance



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AGM opens the 2014/15 season *(continued from page 1)*

reviewed the social events calendar. **Ron** and **Betty Murphy** have kindly volunteered to organize the Euchre sessions again this year. These evenings are open to spouses and guests. On Wednesday December 10th we will be holding our annual Christmas Party. Once again Lester Moseley will be our DJ and comedienne Judy Croon will provide us with 45 minutes of stellar humour. Andrew is looking for any willing volunteers to make this year's party a great success. The 2015 Golf Day will be Monday, June 1st.

Membership chair **Gary Mandel** reported that our membership is healthy with 247 registered and several more possible. New members were introduced and presented with their membership kit which now includes a formal name tag. **A reminder that it is everyone's responsibility to bring in new members.** **Gord Ramsay** and **George McFarlane** received their framed certificate for 25 years membership in the Venerables. Third recipient **Alex Smith** was unable to attend, but sent his heartfelt regrets.

Treasurer, **Jim Thomas**, reported that our **goal** is to have our revenues match our expenses. Our expenses have exceeded revenues in the past few years as we used up accumulated excess funds by maintaining fee levels. We maintain a mandated reserve fund for unforeseen major expenses. Jim expressed appreciation to **Tom Stephens** and **Ian Daniel** (retiring) for acting as the 2013-2014 financial review committee. A motion that "*Tom Stephens and Gord Maunder be confirmed as members of the Financial Review Committee for the fiscal period from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015*" was carried. The new club manager **Doug Miller** was unable to attend and was represented by **John Elstone** of the Board of Directors of Tam Heather. John reported that the club (both curling and tennis) is in good shape overall. The first installment cheque for this year's ice rental was presented to the club.

Facilities Chair **Al Gibson** reviewed the 2014-2015 curling schedule. Al called on the meeting to recognize the Board captains for their important contribution. The VCC had a successful season and will expand to 28 teams. A new initiative SEMUT (Season End Mixed Up Tournament) will commence after the end of the VCC season. Curling Clinics will be held Friday afternoons this year at 1:45 P.M. starting Oct. 17th. **John Wills** is the new coordinator for **Interclub curling** in the TDSMCA (Toronto District Senior Men's Curling Association). **Carman Chisamore** was recognized for his several years of past service in this capacity. Tam Venerables will be hosting the OCA Grand Masters zone play-downs in December. Bonspiel Chair **Gary Sampson** thanked last year's bonspiel committee members for all their efforts. Bonspiel events will remain much the same as last year's schedule (continued in next column)

with the Christmas Spiel changed to a one day skins spiel. For Communications **Andrew Lamb** reported for Art Parker (in BC) that the first issue of CoffeeBreak will be available early in the season. The website will be brought up to date in the next two weeks.

Director at Large **Tony Damiani** will assist in whatever area is required during the coming season.

President **Gary Pennington** adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm.

Great Golf Day *(continued from page 1)*

with humour and helpfulness. They contributed to a smooth day on the links.

Thanks to all for arriving on time and getting started on the sociability & laughter that makes the day a highlight in June.

Golf brings out the **friendship** that is so the mark of the Venerables. The time to complete 18 holes doesn't seem long at all when you are in the company of good friends! We are not sure we speeded up the game time with our changes but everybody seemed happy at day's end. As always play was concluded with a visit to "the nineteenth hole", where stories were swapped about the "one that got away" much like fishing. Thanks to everyone on the Golf Day Committee who contributed to the day's success and to Christine Cassidy and the staff of the Annandale Club.

Anything to contribute?

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

Late Shout out

The Winners of last year's Senior Men's Yuletide Bonspiel at the Bayview Golf and Country Club on Wednesday, December 4th, were **Tam Heather Venerables Hampton team: Skip Dave Hampton, Vice John Gibson, Second Bernie Snodofsky and Lead Frank Ferris.**
