



GRANITE GRIPPER

Chatham Granite Club
41 William St. N
Chatham, Ontario
N7M 4L3

(519) 352-4324
Email: granite@ciaccess.com
www.facebook.com/ChathamGraniteClub
www.chathamgraniteclub.com



No. 2

January 2013

'Message From The President'

The curling season is well underway thanks to the support of many volunteers and members. Volunteers have played a key role in some of the changes around the club. We celebrated our 150th Anniversary in style with a formal dinner and presentation by Canadian Olympic and World Curling Coach Jim Waite and a banner presentation to John Youg Jr.'s 2012 Provincial Colts Team. We also celebrated our 150th Anniversary with a presidents reception and had the opportunity to reconnect with over 25 past presidents. The day was extremely successful and would not have been possible without the hard work of Reg and Marj Johnson and their team of volunteers. We have also kicked off the season with our first brunch thanks to more hard working volunteers to serve almost record crowds, thank you to everyone who participated.

There are several new members and sponsors around the club this season. I encourage you to welcome new members and encourage them to participate in events outside leagues such as bonspiels, brunches and special events. Company sponsorship around the club has contributed greatly to the overall success of our club. Please take time to thank these companies when you visit their facilities.

We still have a few changes to complete around the club over the next year and bonspiels and fundraising are going to play a key role in the success of these improvements. We will begin to see the new condenser installed this winter, as well as the possibility of some new high efficiency furnaces on the main level to replace the existing outdated ones that are currently in need of repair. The board would still like to replace the existing dehumidifier with a unit that will work more effectively and help cut our energy costs. Many of our current board members are working hard on pursuing grant opportunities and new fundraising ideas to make sure that these projects can happen without financial strain on the club. I would like to thank everyone who has been working hard on these projects and encourage others to let us know if you have any ideas for fundraising or events that you would like to see. I would also like to thank the team that installed the cameras on the ice surface and the members that donated funds to pay for the tv monitors, it sure gives the lounge a new look.

I would like to encourage you to register for our Continental Cup Bonspiel! It's a great opportunity to try different styles of curling over the course of a weekend as well as get to play with others you wouldn't normally play with. The best thing is you do not need to register as a team, you can sign up as an individual. There is a sign-up sheet on the lower level of the club on the bulletin boards.

Here's to a successful second half of the season. On behalf of the board of directors at the club, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and happy holidays. We hope to see you all in the New Year.

Melanie DeSchutter – President



News & Developments from Around the Club

"Like Us" on Facebook

We are very excited to announce that we have published a Facebook page for the Chatham Granite Club. We will be using the page to share exciting stories about our members curling accomplishments, share information about upcoming events, bonspiels and meetings at the Granite Club.

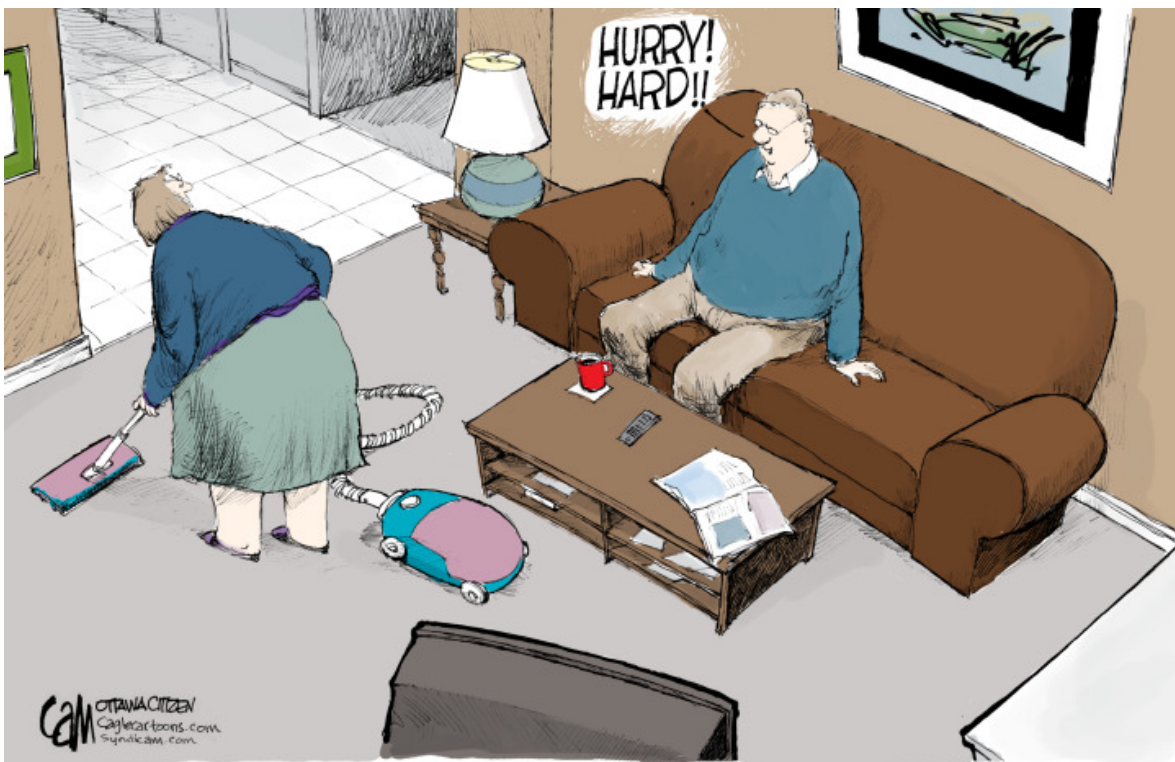
We encourage you to take a look and visit the page and click the "Like" button to join us. You can do that by visiting www.facebook.com/ChathamGraniteClub

If you have any pictures or video's that you would like uploaded to the page please contact one of our Facebook administrators, Ben Curtis, Melanie DeSchutter or Rand MacIntosh.

We are also aware that some members might have concerns having their names or pictures posted on the page, if you do not wish to be mentioned please contact Ben, Melanie or Rand to have your name added to the Privacy List. The board has decided against posting any pictures of our junior curlers on the page to protect their privacy.



Curling Humor



WHICH INCIDENTALLY MARKED THE LAST TIME ED GOT TO WATCH OLYMPIC CURLING..

OCA Bonspiel Events



Upcoming OCA events at the Chatham Granite Club .

Junior/Bantam Mixed Zones – Feb 22-24th

We would appreciate any assistance we can get from our members in the kitchen for the Junior Mixed event in February. We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to help out their prospective leagues (serving lunch) – Please contact John Young or Perry Smyth.

Men's OCA Dominion Tankard Zone Winners

(A-Side) Dale Kelly, Ben Curtis, Mark Patterson , Ed DeSchutter

(B-Side) John Young, Ken Baute, Graeme Robson, Andrew Willemsa

These teams will be representing the Chatham Granite Club at the Dominion Men's Region being played in Glencoe Jan 5th-6th

Men's Senior Zone Winners

(B-Side) Brian Glover, Dennis Alexander, Bob Devolder, Ron Duke

Will be representing the Chatham Granite Club at the senior men's region being played in Blenheim Jan 19th - 20th

Men's Intermediates Winners

(A-Side) Jim Brackett, Joe Griefore, John McCall, Dave Brackett.

(B-Side) John Young Jr., Ken Baute, Ben Curtis, Jacques Van Bilsen.

These teams will be representing the Chatham Granite Club at the Regional Playdowns in Brandford January 26th – 27th.

In the New Year there will be a committee sign up sheet for the 2014 Colts posted downstairs, We need to form a committee ASAP so that we can begin all of the preparations - Please help our club host the best Colts/Trophy Provincial ever in 2014!



Perry Smyth

OCA Representative – Chatham Granite Club

[*Perry.smyth@waters.nestle.com*](mailto:Perry.smyth@waters.nestle.com)

519-365-2168

Bonspiels

The bonspiel season got off to a great start on November 7 as the Granite Club hosted the Tier 55 Senior Men's Event. A full complement of twenty teams took part from as far away as Bowling Green, Ohio. As usual, convener Mike Hastings provided the players with good competition, a great meal, and prizes rich in protein. The first draw winner was the Lee Penfield rink from the Sun Parlour Curling Club in Leamington while the runner-up was the Ireland foursome from Tillsonburg, followed by the Chuck Beedle team out of Windsor Roseland. The overall winner came out of the second draw as the Chuck Skipper quartet from the Granite Club used their skill, experience, and acumen to dominate the opposition. Chuck's teammates included Reg Johnson throwing skip rocks as well a lead John Hendrie and second Bill Whittington. The Fry rink from Roseland was second while third place belonged to Wayne Quinn from Sun Parlour. The committee would also like to thank George Armstrong for his help during the event.

On Monday, December 3rd, 2012, twenty teams participated in the Holly and Mistletoe Bonspiel held at the Granite Club in Chatham. Teams from Blenheim, Chatham, Ingersoll, Kingsville, Leamington, London, Sarnia, and Windsor enjoyed a fun filled day. They played two eight-end games, enjoyed a delicious chicken lunch, tried their luck at the Penny Sale table and Raffle and renewed friendships. Overall winners were Helen Lockhart's team from the Highland Curling Club in London with 55 Points. Team members were Helen "Lovey" Lockhart, Sue Dittmer, Diane Goldstein and Pirkko Sheldrick. Winning the first draw was the team of Charlotte Sparks, Diane Byrnes, Mary Lou Wood, and Elaine Blain from our club with 52 ½ Points. Five other Chatham teams participated – Coleman, O'Neill, Robertson, Snelgrove & Taylor. Committee members were Brenda Hoyles (Convener), Faye Geddes, Jill Slaughter, Nora Snelgrove, & Lois Wood.

The 4th Annual Chatham Cashspiel was a resounding success. It showcased teams from all over Ontario, boasting a prize pool of over \$10,000. The women's event consisted of 12 teams and was won by Michelle Fletcher out of Burlington, Ontario. The Men's side consisted of 15 teams and was won by Bowie Abbis-Mills out of Alymer, Ontario. Special thanks goes out to the committee and all those who helped: Julie Curtis, Betsy Buchanan, Melanie DeSchutter, Ed DeSchutter, Gwen Sullivan-Reed, Rob, & Ben Curtis.

It is hard to believe that we have been on the ice for over two months already and that the Christmas break has already come and gone. The membership has enjoyed participating in these great events this fall and as we turn the page on the calendar there is much more to come. Gina Ferster and her committee are working hard preparing for the annual Mixed Two-Day Bonspiel on January 5 and 6 which is always a great event. The following week Reg Johnson is organizing the DeKoning Senior Mixed Bonspiel for the young at heart. On January 19 and 20 the club will be the site of the Continental Cup convened by club president Melanie DeSchutter. Come out and enjoy these fantastic events as we celebrate 150 years of competition and friendship at the Granite Club.

January 5-6, 2013 - Mixed Two Day

January 12, 2013 - DeKoning Senior Mixed

January 19-20, 2013 - Continental Cup

March 2, 2013 - School Spiel

March 8, 2013 - Men's Tier 55

March 16, 2013 - Family Fun Spiel

Bob Thompson

Chatham Granite Club – League Information

Monday Night Mixed League

Wow has the year flown by.... Hard to believe it is the New Year already! We have a couple of new rinks this year as well as some new curlers. I would like to thank them for joining our group on Mondays and also thank the rest of our curlers for making them feel welcome.

It has been a fun year so far and I am looking forward to more weeks of friendly competition on the ice.

If you have an interest in sparing on Mondays, please add your name to the list on the board. Every week a call goes out for a spare or two....

Hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas.

Rand MacIntosh



Tuesday Day Ladies

Tuesday Day Ladies league had an excellent turnout for the first draw with nine teams starting at 9:00 a.m. Three new curlers joined our league this year. The Eva Granger trophy was presented following this draw to the Ginny O'Neill team comprised of Elaine Blain, Carolyn Waddick and Erica Maunula. Second place team was Diane Byrnes' rink made up of Mary Lou Wood, Mary Prada Paterack and Susan Matsuo. The third place team was Nora Snelgrove's team made up of Joanne Dawson, Deb Hooker and Glynda Slade. Congratulations to all members of these teams. Well done!

Our annual Christmas luncheon was held on December 11th organized by Carolyn Waddick, Margaret Miller and Judith Daley. Seventy-three present and former curlers joined together for good food and fellowship.

Our next draw begins on December 18th and will consist of 6 weeks of "good curling" fun.

Good Curling!!

Marion Schneider, Ginny O'Neill & Sandy Rizzetto

Tuesday Afternoon Men

Right from the Opening Night sign up of a dozen new members for our Tuesday Men's,this season already is, and will be a roaring success. An enthusiastic group of new members adds new vitality, along with welcoming back a number of past members. Total active curlers are filling the five sheets sometimes a couple less and sometimes a few over.

A motion was unanimous to donate funds to the Club's TV monitoring system. Talking about motions, our group now has a few new, changing of the guard "volunteers". Jim Steele as operating committee chairman, Dale Wolfe co-chair and Kent Byrnes looking after the bank account. A special thank you to Larry Wood for five years he dedicated his services as treasurer.

Our season's first Tier 55 South Western Ontario Sr. Men's Bonspiel Association Spiel was held in Chatham Nov 9th, thanks to convener Mike Hastings and his crew. That's 9 bonspiels down and a minimum 21 more on the schedule for members 55 and over. Out of town spiel "road trips" are great winter curling adventures. Another busy season is underway for instructors to the Elementary School Curling Program.

Tuesday Men's are planning a PIZZA / TURKEY SHOOT Christmas party for the 18th. The event planners, J. Steele, F. Hargrave and K. Byrnes are offering up Pizza, Turkey in a box, Turkey in a bottle, more Turkey, more prizes along with some skilled sharp shooting at...a "box"?

Up coming special events include "Skins" and a "Skills Competition", maybe more. It's another season full of great curling experiences, along with some decisions to make along the way, "change is constant", it's a sure thing, the league will be successful.

Chairman - Paul Johnston

Wednesday Night Ladies Curling

The Wednesday Night Ladies League had a very successful fashion show in October with ten of our ladies modelling outstanding clothing and accessories from Mina Marie's.

We welcome several new members to our league – Beth Ann Anderson, Fran Badder, Tanya Deubel, Vivianne DeWitte, Sandy Ponick, and Joan Whitson.

With the first draw now completed, the Kim Chinnick team consisting of Nora Snelgrove, Gillian Hueniken and Tanya Deubel was the overall winner. Congratulations ladies!

Brenda Taylor

Thursday Afternoon Mixed Curling

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Thursday Mixed Curlers. We are having a very successful season so far with close to a full house every week. Welcome to all of the new curlers; we hope that you are enjoying yourself. The new executive is now in place and the Thursday Mixed Curling is operating independently.

Hope that everyone has a good holiday season and we will see you all in January, 2013.

Thank you

Delbert Lorenz

Thursday Night Flight Curling

Our Thursday Flight is going well. We are now into our Second Flight, which will wrap up early in the New Year.

Congratulations to the winners of our First Flight:

- A Flight – Team John Young Jr.
- B Flight – Team Bob O'Neill
- C Flight – Team Jerry Ferster
- D Flight – Team Wayne Sass



Playoffs

Playoffs will be held the last two weeks of the season. Teams will be put in pools of four (with the bottom pool having six teams and byes). Each team's position in a pool will be based on total points for the entire season. Within the pools, one will play four and two will play three - then the winners of each game will play off to determine the winner of the pool. There will not be a Saturday wrap-up this year.

Men's Dominion

The winner of the A pool of the playoffs will be declared the Club Champion and represent the Chatham Granite Club at the Dominion next fall.

We're looking forward to some more good curling over the rest of the season.

Greg Payne

pppowerwash@live.com

Friday Night Curling

Pay as you play is back on Friday nights. Eight weeks into the season we have had an extremely good turnout of experienced and new curlers. Members curl for free and this is a great opportunity for you to bring your friends to the club so that they can pay \$10 and try out the game! Lessons are available to new curlers and teams are made up Friday evening shortly before game time. Curling starts at 7 p.m. but get there early if you want a lesson.

Sign up sheets are posted every week and spots are limited so make sure you sign up before Friday. Come out for some social curling and bring a friend to introduce them to the game!

- Friday April 6 2013 is the date of the Friday year end bonspiel.

My best wishes to everyone for a very Merry Christmas & a Happy and prosperous 2013!

See you on the ice!

Paul Bowman

Junior Curling Program

Once again the junior program is off to a great start. We have 48 registered curlers with approximately 20 of them in their first year of the program which runs most Sunday's from 1:00 to 3:00.

In the first few weeks of the program our junior curlers learned some of the basic techniques of curling, with all developing their skills to the point of playing in actual games. Special thanks to Bill, Blake and John for their on ice instruction as well as Rodney for his off-ice hot chocolate treat. Enjoy the holiday season!

Don Taylor

Special Olympics

The decision to move to Sunday afternoons has been a positive one as we have a doubled our numbers! Every week the group enjoys a bit of instruction followed by hot chocolate and then a game to finish the day. Strategy and challenges are always part of the discussion.

We had our Christmas celebration on the 16th and I am sure we had a few people dressed for the season.

Thanks to the family and friends of our participants for your help and also to my assistant coach Nicolle. New participants are always welcome, if you have any questions please contact me or the club.

Rand MacIntosh

Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who helped with, and bought tickets for our fundraising so far this year. Congratulations to the winners of the gift certificates from **Schinkels' Gourmet Meats**, they are:

1st – Robin Dudley

2nd – Ken Chittim

3rd – Tara Gallant

These funds are important to the club as they help us to fund the tremendous Junior program we have. These young curlers are the future of the game and it is important to provide the right atmosphere. There are numerous volunteers that help with coaching and organizing of the ice time for these curlers. (Thank You) By helping with fundraising we are able to offset some of the costs associated so that we can focus the income from daily operations on maintaining the club.

Hope you all had a wonderful Christmas.

Rand MacIntosh

Membership & Publicity

We are pleased to announce that we have 42 new first year members...a BIG welcome to all and we hope you're curling experience we be an enjoyable one.

The Brunch on November 18th was a huge success and we made a profit of \$1,000. Thanks to everyone who volunteered in the kitchen, help serve, do clean-up and donated food items, it takes a very coordinated effort by all to make these brunches so successful. **Our next Brunch is on Sunday February 3rd** so please put the date on your calendar and plan to attend the best brunch in Chatham. Remember, we now start serving at 10:30am.

Our 150th Anniversary 'Day of Celebration' was an overwhelming success with over 130 attending and one past President coming all the way from Williamsburg, Virginia to attend. Our guest speaker was Jim Waite, the Olympic and National team coach who gave us a very interesting back ground look of the last winter Olympics in Vancouver. We received congratulatory plaques from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, Queens Park Toronto, Ottawa and the Ontario Curling Association. In the hallway across from John's Office we have additional pamphlets from the evening with the history of the club from 1862 until the present...please feel free to take one home with you. Again, thanks to everyone who helped make this a successful evening.

If anyone would like a 150th Anniversary Granite Club golf shirt, see John Young Jr. If we get a minimum of 12 orders, we can then place an order with Bob Allen. The cost is \$40.00 per Shirt.

The **2012-2013 Membership list** is now available.

Reg Johnson

House & Property Report

I hope everyone is enjoying the season so far. If anyone has any questions or comments regarding the house or ice concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks,

Mark Patterson

markwpatterson@sympatico.ca



Curling

A sport for all ages... A sport for life!!!

"It Rocks!!!!!"



We'd Like to Extend Special Thanks to our Sponsors

Please pay Patronage to our sponsor's when you can, and tell them you saw their ad at the Granite Club!!!

AGRIS Co-Operative Ltd.
airNET Max
Alpine Plant Food
Al's Lawn Care
Arctic Glacier
Battery Boy
Bayside Breweries
Belfor Restoration
Beselaere Construction
Blazing BBQ
Brooks Tire
Campbell Toyota
Chamberlain Mercury Printing
Chatham Kent Home Hardward Building Center
Chatham Holiday Inn Express
Chef's Table
Chilled Cork
Collins Barrow
Country View Golf Course
Croplan Genetics - John Young
Devolder Seeds
Dillon Consulting
Dowlar-Karn
DPM
Drennan Refrigeration
E.Jenkins Landscaping / May Time Sod Farm
Encore Bar & Night Spot
Forsythe Travel
Frank Little Chiropractic
Gagner Chiropractic
Gentry Manor
Glitters
Handy Brothers
Henry Heyink Construction
Hercon
Heritage Credit Union
Hyland
Imperial Auto Body
Investors Group
Jackson Seed Service Ltd.
Joe Van
Lionel's Men's Wear

Maizex Seeds Inc.
Maple City Retirement Home
McGrail Farm Equipment
McKinlay Funeral Home
Merit Builders
Micro Age Computer Stores
MP Roofing & Siding
O'Neill Insurance
Oriole Wineries
P&P Powerwash
Pinwood Truck Parts
Pioneer Hybrid Limited
Postma Heating & Cooling
Pride Seeds
Remedy's Rx
Rick's Fresh Vegetables
Riverviewbingo.com
RONA - Chatham
RONA - Windsor
Ross Insurance Brokers Inc.
Sacwal Flooring Centers
Schinkels' Gourmet Meats
Sentry Fire & Safety Services
Southwest Ag Partners
St. Andrew's Residence
St. Clair Colletge - Alumni Association
Syngenta
Tek-Savvy
The Dominion
Thompsons Limited
Tournament Sports - Bob Allen
Waddick Fuels
Wayne Carr Dentistry
Win Mar
W V Concrete Floors
Z's Bistro

Thursday Flight Sponsors
O'Neill Insurance
D.P.M Insurance - Ed Kys
Victory Ford - Don Leonard
Pioneer - Blake Vince & Brad Blonde