

# THE HOGLINE

DECEMBER, 2009

FROM THE PEN OF THE PREZ.....

Tom Devaney

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, I would like to extend 'Seasons Greetings' to all members. It's hard to believe that we are almost halfway through another season and the New Year will soon be upon us. I would like to congratulate everyone on a tremendous start to this season with the ice in it created a buzz that I had not experienced in some years.

The **low E ceiling** appears to be doing its job so well that St Thomas Energy thought we deserved an award for energy conservation. Our award is proudly on display in the display cabinet next to the bar.

**Membership** this year is only slightly down from previous years and considering the economic situation, I think we faired pretty well. Unfortunately the Sunday Mixed league did not survive the down turn and the league had to be temporarily discontinued. Curling 101 was once again a positive sign with 19 new curlers joining.

The membership committee has announced their 2010 Gold, Silver and Bronze Medal deals (see below) so be sure to pass on the details to your friends and family.

If you haven't yet noticed the **front entrance** was recently replaced. This was made possible by a generous donation from the Senior Men's league. The New Year will bring our usual assortment of Board of Director events and spiels. First up is the '**Go for Gold' Mixed Spiel** on January 23 with the signup sheet posted in the lounge. On February 14 we will have a **Sweetheart Brunch and Spiel** put on by the Board of Directors and April brings our annual favourite, the **Steakspiel**. There are also many league run events as well. Please be sure to check the calendar.

Speaking of calendars.... did you get your copy yet? Please be sure to patronize those businesses that advertised in our membership book and within the club. Let's support those who support us.

In February we will host the 2010 **Gore Mutual Insurance School Boy and Girl Provincial Championship**. Co-chairs Barry Westman and Laurie Weagant tell me they are still looking for team sponsorships. Please contact them if you are interested.

If you are looking for last minute gift ideas please remember our pro shop at the bar has a wide assortment of gift items for your favorite curler.

**Have a safe and happy holiday.**

*Q: What nationality is Santa Claus?*

*A: North Polish.*

## BELLES AND BROOMS BONSPIEL

The Ladies' Belles and Brooms Bonspiel 31<sup>st</sup> spiel was held on Nov. 23 and 24 with a full 2 draws of 24 teams, including 6 St. Thomas teams. The **'A' Flight winner** was the Aylmer team of Christa Brouwer with Vice Judy VanYmeren, second Ferne Taggart and lead Bozena Boadway.

### Winning St. Thomas teams were:

**'A' Flight** : 3<sup>rd</sup> - Brenda Cairns, Skip; Denise Cyr, Sherry Rosevear, Judy Upsdell and Joanne Wilson.

**'B' Flight**: 3<sup>rd</sup> - Marg Kitchenham, Skip; Kim DeKlein, Connie Fanset, Shirley Westman

**'D' Flight**: 1<sup>st</sup> – Barb Jones, Skip; Dorothy Purchase, Nancy McLeish, Barb Green, Dawn Clinton

The theme was *Santa's Workshop* and new toys donated by members were used to decorate under the tree. Following the event, they were given to **Christmas Care**. Many thanks are given to everyone who contributed.

We are very grateful to our local sponsors without whom we could not put on such a renowned and popular spiel. Our sincere thanks to the people and businesses listed below who gave so generously.

### SPONSORS – 2009

Jennings Furniture – Renee Carpenter  
St. Thomas Glass Co. – Doug & Sandy Coombs  
Impressions Printing – Darryl Turley  
Williams Funeral Home – Al & Gary Hughson  
Sifton Funeral Home – Brent Sifton  
Woody's Body Shop – Hugh, Al & Carolyn Schermerhorn  
CIBC Wood Gundy – Tom Fox  
St. Thomas & Dutton Optometric – Dr. Jason Morris  
Kee, Perry & Lassam, C.A.'s – Mark Lassam  
Dental Services – Dr. Rob Martin & Dr. Bryan Lee  
Noad Chiropractic Clinic – Dr. David Noad  
Legal Services – Robert Upsdell  
Shawn Jackson Funeral Home – Shawn Jackson  
Wind 'N' Willow – Terry Ranta-Hall  
Cedarhurst Salon & Spa – Kathy Schaeffer-Moyes  
Apples – Courtesy of Hepburn Farms

The Ladies 2 Day Bonspiel Committee

*Q: What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus?*

*A: Claustrophobic.*

REPRESENTING US

If you missed the great articles by Nancy MacLeish in the Times Journal you may not be aware that we sent 3 teams to the Junior Region competition in Wingham in November. Team Sara Westman, Team Abby Weagant and Team Aaron Squires represented St Thomas. Sara Westman's team went undefeated to advance to the Junior Provincial Championships January 2-6, 2010. Good Luck Sara. Team Abby Weagant competed in the Zone 15 School Girl competition and went undefeated advancing on the 'A' side to regional competition in January.

Team Jim Lyle also advanced to regional play in the Senior Men competition and went undefeated winning the 'A' side and advancing to the Provincial championships to be held in Orillia, January 20 -24, 2010.

Our club is the host for the Best Western / Fairfield Marriot Challenge January 8-10. Please feel free to come out and watch the competition.

### **WOMEN'S LEAGUE REPORT**

This year the Women's League had a change in our league opening. We had a casual evening of curling followed by appetizers. The evening was well attended.

Membership for the Women's League is down overall. However with some teams not returning Monday night new teams have been formed. In addition the Wednesday night league has changed their format. Teams put together at the beginning of the year will remain together for the entire season instead of having three different draws throughout the year. These changes have been well received.

Our first spiel was a success. Curlers Care raised \$520.00 for a special needs child to help aid in the purchase of a wheelchair accessible van. A lunch was catered by the Senior Men. There were thirty six curlers in attendance with many who were new to the game or not club members.

Our next spiel will be the Breakfast Spiel on January 24<sup>th</sup>. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Our Women's one day spiel will be February 27<sup>th</sup> and is being convened by Shirley Westman.

The executive is enthusiastic and looks forward to the New Year. Happy Holidays to all and good curling.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Barnes

*Q: What do you call a bunch of grandmasters of chess bragging about their games in a hotel lobby?*

*A: Chess nuts boasting in an open foyer!*

### **2010 MEMBERSHIP DEALS**

**GOLD MEDAL DEAL:** 10 weeks of curling plus your entry into the Steakspiel. \$50 off of next year's fees. Starting Date: January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Cost: \$99.00

**SILVER MEDAL DEAL-**10 weeks of curling and \$50 off of next year's fees. Starting Date: January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Cost: \$99.00

**BRONZE MEDAL DEAL-** 4 weeks of Curling 101 (March 7, 21, 28 April 11) plus Steakspiel entry. Return at new member rate next year. Cost: \$50.00

**FUTURE OLYMPIANS -** (Junior Curling) Starting Date: January 10<sup>th</sup>. Cost: \$30.00

*Q: What's the most popular wine at Christmas?*

*A: "I don't like sprouts"!*

### **THE 2009-2010 GORE MUTUAL ONTARIO SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP**

This provincial championship event is scheduled to take place at our club from February 18 to February 20, 2010. Eight boys' and eight girls' teams will be competing for the Ontario Secondary School Curling Championship.

In order to make this event a roaring success we need the support of the curling club membership. We are currently looking for volunteers in the following areas: Opening Ceremonies co-coordinator and bleacher set-up and take-down crew. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the main bulletin board at the club.

We are also looking for sponsors for this event. We are asking each of the leagues in the club to consider sponsoring a team at a cost of \$250. Thank you very much to the leagues that have already indicated that they are willing to assist us with this request. Additional sponsorship opportunities exist starting at \$25 for program advertising.

If you are interested in helping make this event a success, please contact one of the committee members: Barry & Shirley Westman, Dan & Laurie Weagant, Rick & Sheri Bolt.

**Barry Westman,**  
Co-chair

The Board of Directors wishes each and everyone a wonderful  
Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year!