

# THE HOGLINE

E-MAIL EDITION  
SEPTEMBER, 2010

## FROM THE PEN OF THE PREZ.....

I would like to welcome everyone back from summer. Believe it or not, it is only one month, or less by the time you read this, until Guest & Registration Week October 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>. Regular curling is scheduled to start October 12, and for the first time in a number of years the club is thrilled to again be hosting parts of the Southwestern Ontario Women's Charity Cashspiel. We have quite a busy fall scheduled this year. Don and Diane Marcou are currently finalizing plans for the club Swing and Sweep to be held October 23. This will be the club opening event. Tickets will be available from Don and Diane or during Guest Week. There will be 9 holes at Union, followed by a catered dinner at the club and curling.

Please welcome Diane Marcou to the Board of Directors. Diane is already hard at work for the club. Best wishes to Dennis Potter who has retired from the board after many years of service. I would also like to thank Larry Jenner for his tireless efforts for the club, and for agreeing to be the Vice-president this year. Also, thanks to the other board members for their efforts over the summer. You will find a number of small changes at the club, as we continue to try and update some of the very old parts.

Look for the curling club location at the International Plowing Match September 21<sup>st</sup> through 25<sup>th</sup>. This will be a great opportunity to promote the club and the Brier. We are delighted to be part of the County of Elgin display.

On that note, we are expecting an exciting year with the Brier being hosted in London in part by our club. I understand that tickets are selling fast, and end seating is already gone, at least in the lower bowl. I also understand that volunteer positions have been filled. Our thanks to all of the club members volunteering, but particularly to Peter Inch, Ann Lapchinski and Ted Smith from our club for taking on some of the top management jobs in hosting this great and historic event.

On a financial note, the membership committee and the finance committee have worked hard to keep fees reasonable. However, we recognize that with the increase from the HST things might be tight for some members. Therefore, there are now three ways to pay your membership. In past years there have been options to pay all at once, or in two instalments with a small service charge. We have added a third option to pay in 6 instalments. See the membership people during Registration Week for details. Our popular Bonus Buck program will also continue with some minor changes this year.

Finally, I have asked Cathy, our dedicated Secretary-Treasurer, to enclose with this Hogline a copy of the sponsorship opportunities at the club. It is not too late to get your business card in the book or your name on the wall. If you are interested, fill out the form and return it to the club as soon as possible, or see Shawn Holroyd for further details.

Good Curling,

**Jim Frederick,**

## **SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO WOMEN'S CHARITY BONSPIEL**

They're coming back!! For the first time in many years there will be curling in our building.

For the past 14 years the St. Thomas Curling Club has been a host for the Southwestern Ontario Women's Charity Cashspiel. The Southwestern Ontario Women's Charity Cashspiel is a premier curling event which showcases world class women's curling while supporting local initiatives in breast cancer research and care. Now in its fourteen year, the Cashspiel has raised \$191,915 for local breast cancer research and care.

This season on October 15<sup>th</sup> (9:30 and 1:30) and 16<sup>th</sup> (9 and 11) these ladies will be competing in St. Thomas. (Games will also be taking place from Oct 15<sup>th</sup> through to October 18<sup>th</sup> at the London Curling Club.) This year we will be welcoming Team Homan (Ottawa), Team Middaugh (Coldwater), Team Nichols (St. John's, Newfoundland), Team Sloan (Lockerbie, Scotland) plus many others. Don't miss this chance to see these ladies on your home ice.

Besides being an opportunity to view great curling at our own club you will also have the opportunity to help us raise money for the London Regional Cancer Center. We will be hosting a penny table during the event to raise funds. We have also had donated to us tickets to the Brier as well as a Glenn Howard signed team shirt, and a signed Team Canada Johnny Morris shirt. If any one else has items they would like to donate we will only be too happy to put them on the table. Please call Christine Hale-Sanders at 519-633-0016 and pick-up can be arranged.

There is still space available for the Funspiel on Friday October 15 at Highland. Come and play with a pro-skip and enjoy some wine and cheese with the teams. The entry fee is \$50 and includes a partial tax receipt. Please call Donna Krotz at 519-686-6848 to register.

Part of our revenue and charitable donations comes from sponsorships and there is still an opportunity to become a sponsor. Information can be obtained from Marnie Dickout at 519-438-8837.

To find out more information about our event please visit our website at [www.sowcc.isp.ca](http://www.sowcc.isp.ca). You can also speak with our club committee members Barb Jones, Ann Lapchinski, Sue Waite or Christine Hale-Sanders.

*Christine Hale-Sanders*

**ARCTIC CLASSIC**  
(formally the St. Thomas Cashspiel)

This year, the St. Thomas Cashspiel will take on a new look, a new name, a new format, and a new prize board, with the addition of **ARCTIC EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURING**, (makers of ARCTIC SNOWPLOWS) as a major sponsor. ARCTIC has agreed to contribute considerable cash to the event, and hence the name change to THE ARCTIC CLASSIC. This year's event will be held on Nov 12-14<sup>th</sup>. More info, as the season opens.

Last year's event was held on November 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Twenty four teams participated in the event. The home club was represented by three rinks. Some great shots were viewed by all those attending. Prize money in the amount of \$9600 was distributed. On Sunday morning, Dale Kelly, curling out of the Woodstock Club, prevailed over the home club's Jim Lyle to take home the \$2000 first prize.

Many of last years sponsors, who are listed below, have agreed to stay on as minor sponsors. At this time I would like to thank those businesses for their assistance and would ask you, as members of the St. Thomas Curling Club, to support these businesses, where possible.

*Arctic Snowplows Manufacturing Limited,*

*New 2 You Auto* – Phil James

*Dowler Karn Limited*

*BMO Nesbitt Burns* – David J. Haak & Kim Rusin

*Boston Pizza*

*Coldwell Banker* – Earl & Nancy Taylor

*Pete Charlton's Quality Meats*

*Graham Scott Enns* – Jim Frederick

*Hayman Construction*

I would also like to extend a great big thank you to the Senior Men's League for supplying the meals for this event. I have had nothing but excellent comments relating to the food.

**Larry Jenner**

Co-convenor

**MEMBERSHIP**

It's hard to believe but registration time is here again. I hope everyone has had a great summer and is ready to dust off their brooms and shoes and get curling. This year we will be hosting our Open House and Registration a week earlier than usual, before Thanksgiving, on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 9 pm. This will be your chance to bring out potential members to try out the game and to renew our curling friendships both on the ice and in the lounge.

Once again we will be offering a variety of membership options for our members. We will once again be offering our **Curling 101** to new members. Here they receive 8 weeks of lessons plus league play for the new member price. Here is a fact that not many know. Curling 101 is open to all club members at no additional cost, so if you want the help come on out on Sunday evenings, you will be welcomed.

New this year will be the option to pay your fees with a series of post-dated cheques. Please check your fee statement for amounts.

See you in October.

*Christine Hale-Sanders*, Membership Chair

## **SWING & SWEEP OPENING PARTY**

Plans are well under way for a fun-filled Opening Party to be held October 23, 2010.

For the low cost of \$35, participants will get a chance to play 9 holes of golf at St. Thomas Golf & Country Club, have dinner at the curling club, curl a 4 end-game and round out the evening with a game of cards.

For those who don't wish to golf, \$25 will buy you dinner, curling and cards. We're hoping that Union golf members will take part in this evening, too, and we will be offering a mini-clinic for those who do not know how to curl. We also welcome your non-curling friends who would like to try it.

There will be a draw for a free round of golf at Union. Tickets will be available during Registration Week, or from:

Don Marcou 519-637-0350

Ellen Luft 519-637-7196

Don't be disappointed. Get your tickets early.

## **LADIES' LEAGUE**

How quickly the summer is coming to an end and soon we will be curling. I hope everyone has had a nice summer.

Guest/Registration Week will be held October 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup>. At this time you will be able to purchase tickets for the opening ladies' dinner which is scheduled for Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>.

This year the Ladies' two-day bonspiel will be held on November 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Diane Ferguson is the convenor. The theme for this year is "Christmas in Railway City". If you have anything that Diane might be able to decorate with, I am sure she would appreciate it.

We are also hosting the "Sister Spiel" this year on Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. If anyone wishes to help, please contact Dianne Bocking. See you in October.

**Sandi Coombs**, President

## **WOMEN'S LEAGUE**

The 2010-11 curling season is almost here. The Women's Monday night league is hoping to fill six sheets with twelve teams or more. Our convenor for Monday is Ellen Luft and we are looking for two other ladies to assist her. Cyndie Wells will be in charge of the Wednesday women's league with help from Alwyn Verbeek and Lindsey Groeneweg. We hope that with the new monthly payment format we will entice more new curlers for this league. Please let your friends know of this change and bring them out Guest Week.

Our **Curlers Care Bonspiel** is going to be held on Saturday December 4 with Gwen Roberts looking after this worthwhile charitable event.

Our Women's **Breakfast Spiel** will be held on Sunday January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Chairing this spiel will be Pat Quinn and Godlief Devaire.

Our Women's bonspiel convened this year by Jennifer Barnes has been moved back one week to Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>. We found that in the past other clubs were having bonspiels on the same date so hopefully with the move we will get more out of town teams.

The St. Thomas Curling Club will be hosting “**Curl for the Cure**”, a women’s bonspiel on Saturday. November 6. This breast cancer fundraiser has previously been held at the Highland and London Curling Club. There will be 2 draws with 24 teams from London, St. Thomas and area. Make sure you sign your team up early in order to guarantee a spot. The committee for this event is from the different clubs and has asked for volunteers from ours. If you would like to help or enter a team please e-mail [marilyngraham@rogers.com](mailto:marilyngraham@rogers.com) or call me at 519-633-3266.

Looking forward to another great season of curling.

*Marilyn Graham*  
President

### **WEDNESDAY MIXED LEAGUE**

The Wednesday Night Mixed League plays every Wednesday evening (as our name implies) at 8:30. At the start of the year, teams are formed and stay together throughout the season. We are a social group. On ‘Food’ Nights, there are only 6 ends played to leave lots of time for eating and visiting. At the end of the season, there are several weeks of ply-downs to the final game between the top 2 teams. The rest of the teams play a fun game followed by prizes for everyone.

New players and teams are always welcome. All skill levels are accommodated. Sign up as a team, a couple of or an individual. We have spots for all.

Good curling.

**Phil James,**  
League Convenor

### **OUR WEBSITE**

Don’t forget that our website is full of information. Our calendar is posted, plus lots of other information. It is only a key stroke away.

Our address is: [www.stthomascurlingclub.com](http://www.stthomascurlingclub.com)

Our email address is: [wecurl@stthomascurlingclub.com](mailto:wecurl@stthomascurlingclub.com)

### **CHANGES TO OUR FEES**

As Jim mentioned in his article, there is a big change being made in how our members can pay their fees. Besides the ‘*pay-it-all-at-once-and-get-it-over-with*’ plan and the ‘*pay-in-2-instalments*’ plan, we now add the ‘*pay-in-6-monthly-instalments*’ plan. We hope that with this new method, we may attract more people who find the monthly payments easier to handle. **As with the 2-instalment plan, we require the 6 cheques to be given to us at the time of registration.** There is a finance charge of \$24 for this service, paid equally over the 6 months.

For more information, refer to the ‘Fee Statement’ that is included with your mailing.

And, unless you have been on a desert island all summer, you know all about the HST. It is adding a very nasty wallop to everyone’s fees.

Aaaaah, Dalton. You look so benevolent!

## **SOME GOOD NEWS**

Bar prices are being held at last year's rates. Hope that softens the blow of the fee increase.

## **WE'RE BAAACCCK!**

Your hard working staff of Kevin, Ed, Shirley, Teresa, Jacquie and Cathy will all be back this year trying their best for you. And we welcome a new bartender to the fold. Madeline, who helped out a few times last year, will be working 2 evenings a week.

## **TIM HORTONS BRIER LONDON 2011**

Keep March 5<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup> open. The Brier returns to London after a 37 year absence. Hec Gervais, the champ in 1974, has been replaced by names like Martin, Howard, Stoughton and Koe but the action will be still exciting and the Brier Patch will be the site of a week long party.

Currently full week passes are available at 866-455-2849 or on line at the John Labatt Center site or in person at the JLC box office. Other packages and single game tickets will be on sale later in the year. Sure, it is easy to sit at home and watch but remember a portion of all revenue comes back to our club! Support your club by buying a ticket!

Volunteer recruitment has ended. Over 500 volunteers will be part of the action. Directors will be contacting their committees this month but mark October 24 on your calendars. That is the first volunteer rally. Details will be emailed to you.

For information visit the web site at: <http://www.curling.ca/championships/brier>.

*Ann Lapchinski*

Vice-Chair,  
Volunteers and Special Events.

## **INTERNATIONAL PLOWING MATCH**

As Jim stated, we will be promoting our club at the Plowing Match. It runs from September 21<sup>st</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> and should be a lot of fun. Look for us in the Community Tent. Drop by and say 'Hi'.

## HAVE YOU MOVED?

If you moved or are planning on moving this fall, please let the Curling Club know. We can't make the changes to the Membership book unless you tell us! If your telephone number has changed, we need to know that, too.

The easiest way is to email the club: [wecurl@stthomascurlingclub.com](mailto:wecurl@stthomascurlingclub.com)

It will only take a moment of your time.

## HAVING A REALLY BIG PARTY??

The Club has purchased new stacking chairs and long tables to replace the not-so-great ones we have had forever. If anyone is interested in purchasing some or all of the old ones, call Larry Jenner at 519-769-2498.

## BONUS BUCKS

All returning members of the St. Thomas Curling Club will receive Bonus Bucks if they register and pay their fees during Guest/Registration Week. These can be redeemed at our pro shop or at any Board of Directors sanctioned event.

You will be issued additional Bonus Bucks if you are named as the reason that a new member joined the club, so make sure that your friends know this.

**10 Bonus Bucks:** for those who have curled for more than two seasons.

**20 Bonus Bucks:** for those who have curled for one season. (Now is the time to purchase your own equipment.)

**25 Bonus Bucks:** for each friend who names you as their reason for joining. (Lots of friends means lots of Bonus Bucks)

Hope to see you all during Guest/Registration Week October 5, 6, 7. The pro shop will be open and the ice will be available for practice. Please note Bonus Bucks will only be handed out during this week.

Please note that bonus bucks cannot be shared, except with a spouse.

*Christine Hale-Sanders*

## THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR ONE MORE INTERESTING IDEA.....

If you thought that you had experienced curling in all its facets, think again. Imagine ...curling in the Caribbean...on a ship!

A curling cruise on Royal Caribbean's 'Freedom of the Sea' is being held from April 24-May 1, 2011 and you're invited! You will be rubbing elbows with John Morris and Craig Savill and you will have a chance of winning the "World Championship Short Game".

For more information, check out their website: [www.pebblethesea.ca](http://www.pebblethesea.ca)

Hope to see you there!

## **THIS YEAR'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

.....and their areas of responsibility

**President:** Jim Frederick (Finance)

**Vice-president:** Larry Jenner (Ice)

**Past-president:** Tom Devaney (Safety)

**Directors:**

Paul Choma (Facilities)

Rod Geer (Juniors)

Christine Hale-Sanders (Membership)

Shawn Holroyd (Advertising)

Diane Marcou (Assistant Facilities)

Don Marcou (Rentals)

Joan McGregor (Bar)

Al McRorie (Web Master)

## **LOCKERS**

We have lockers available for rental. The cost for the year is \$40.00 + \$5.20 HST. When you register, speak to Cathy for a Women's locker or Jim for a Men's locker.

## **GUEST/REGISTRATION WEEK**

Please come Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, October 5-7, to register. It makes it so much easier for the year's organizers. And remember that the \$10 in Bonus Bucks is only given to members if they pay during Registration Week.

Stay for a drink and catch up with friends. It's guaranteed to be a happening place!

**See you soon.**