



DUCK SOUP

Official Newsletter of the Ardsley Curling Club
www.ardsleycurling.com



Club National Champs



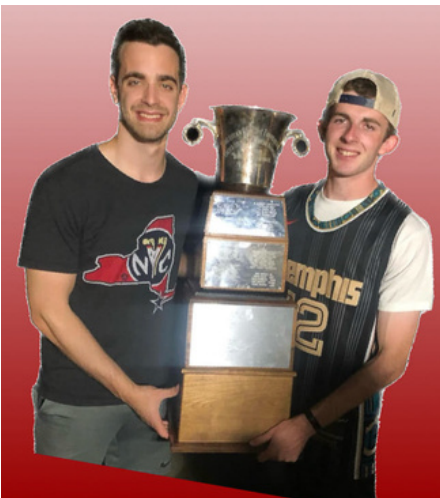
It seems you can't turn around at Ardsley without bumping into a National Champion or two. The most recent to join that club are Sere Politano, Megan Stopera, Amber Will, and Elizabeth Harmon. They nabbed the At-large spot at Playdowns last month and went on to join the top 24 men's and women's USA Curling Club teams Mar 16-19 at Wausau CC.

The Politano rink defeated the rink skipped by former Olympian Ann Swisshelm (Detroit Curling Club) in the final. The 8 to 4 victory gave them a 6-2-0 record for the four-days, and they brought home the gold medal!

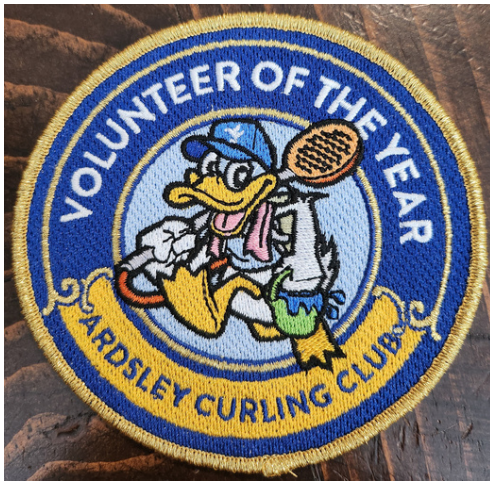
Silver Medals Too!

A week before coaching our Ardsley Club team to victory, club member Bill Stopera won silver at the USA Curling Senior Nationals at Granite CC.

And the whole club was cheering last month as we watched our former juniors, Danny Casper and Andrew Stopera, do battle at Men's Nationals. Danny brought home Silver from Men's Nationals, and Andrew subsequently won Silver at US Mixed Doubles.



Volunteer of the Year Nominations



The Volunteer of the Year award, probably the most important award given out on an annual basis by the club will once again be awarded to that person or persons at the end of the season.

Members are asked to nominate the person or persons they feel deserve this honor. The final decision will be made by the "Ice House Committee" under the leadership of Bill Borowitz and awarded at the club closing dinner.

You can nominate your choice and give a small explanation by e-mailing Jim Duke at themaxian@aol.com and all recommendations will be forwarded to the committee.

You can only win this award once and the winners name or names will be engraved on the plaque prominently hanging in the warm room. Past winners include: Geoff Broadhurst, Alison Bankes, David Schrull, Robert Kennedy, Julie Everett, Curt Pader, Matt Scheiner, Joe Sablow, Jim Borgia, Tim Klein, and Derek Kayser.



Save the Date:

Ardsley Annual Meeting
Sunday, April 16
following Pull-the-Plug



IN MEMORIAM

JAMES T. "JIMMY" O'CONNOR

1954 --- 2022

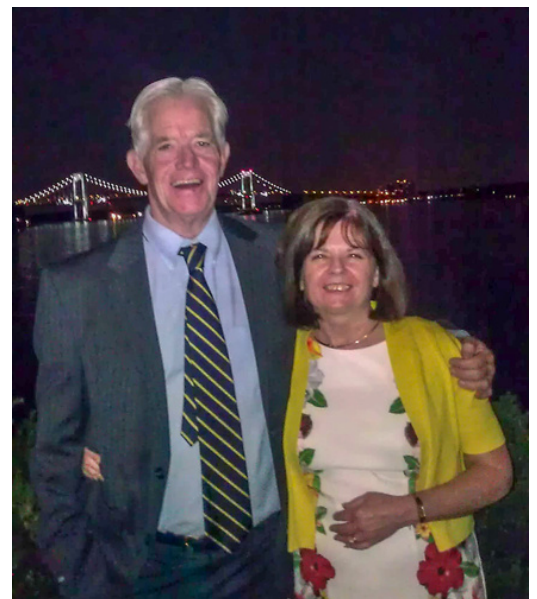
With great sadness, we say goodbye to Jim O'Connor. It was always a pleasure to broomstack with Jimmy after a curling match and listen to his stories. He was able to make any story come to life. His kindness, wit, and smile will be greatly missed.

Jimmy was a proud member of the United States Army serving as a medic in Hanau, Germany. He was also a proud member of the NYPD, serving in various precincts and units in the Bronx and Manhattan. He retired as a Sergeant after 20 years of service.



He is survived by his loving wife Ellen and his four sisters Marianne, Barbara, Elizabeth and Laure, his nieces and nephews and extended family.

In lieu of flowers, the family request that donations be made to the PKD Foundation, pkdcure.org



Message from the President

-- *Derek Kayser*

When we start to see the crocuses bloom, it's a sure sign that our time on the ice is coming to a close. This year has been a banner year for Ardsley Curling Club - literally! Many of our members won major bonspiels! Vinay Goenka's Team India won silver in the B division at the Pan-Continental Championship, Andrew Stopera's team won bronze in the A division of that same bonspiel, Danny Casper's team won silver at the University World Championship, Andrew Stopera won silver at USA Mixed Doubles, Danny Casper's team won silver at US Men's Nationals, Bill Stopera's team won silver at US Senior Nationals, and most recently Sere Polintano's team won gold at US Club Nationals. Congratulations to all our winners. Keep up the good work! We also have a men's 5-and-under team headed to Nationals at the end of April - good luck guys!

Our club has seen some physical changes thanks to all the volunteers that came out during the hot summer days to improve and update the looks of our club with great renovations. The club has also grown from 147 members at the beginning of the season to just over 200 members. This is tremendous growth for a non Olympic year, and we're thrilled to #GrowTheGame.

We have also have had more special events this year than ever. We've hosted open houses, learn-to-curls, corporate events, and our new hit event: Curling and Cocktails. I would like to thank Travis Spokes and his team of volunteers. Through their hard work they raised over \$80,000 for the club and our curling community. This is the main reason why our dues stay stable, so if you see Travis or his volunteer team -- say thank you or buy them a drink! Despite this awesome example, we still have a low rate of volunteerism among club members, and we're looking to change that. Next year will be our "Year of Volunteerism"- our goal is to have 100% of our members volunteer at least once throughout the season, please help us meet that goal!

I would like to thank some of those volunteers we have come to rely on this year. Next year, I'm sure this message will take up all of Duck Soup, since I will be listing every single one of your names. So thank you Dave Schrull, Tim Klein, Jeff Greenberg, Vinay Goenka, Jonathan Leung, Jim Mantia, Jim Bilodeau, Matt Scheiner, Dolores Redding, Keith Wisbauer, Amy Costantino, Stefan Benkowski, Joe Sablow, Mike Horowitz, Judith Kelson, Kellen McNally, Walter Michalski, Curtis Pader, Joe Pannela, Jon Schuster (the other one), Bill Borowitz, Mike DeWalt, Julie Everett, Colin Kasprovicz, Scott Druskin, Rich Goodwin, Katie Hodgdon, Mike Knaggs, Kavi Manchanda, Karen Luckey, James Weeks, Scott Silverman, Astrid Mel, Matt Rogalla, and the list goes on.

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Message from the President

-- *Derek Kayser*

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I would like to thank all the members of the board, and everyone else who has contributed their time and labor to our community, we value every minute of your help.

In closing I would like to bid farewell to board member and club secretary, Greg Poole-Day, and thank him for his service, his guidance, and his friendship. Good luck with your move and new home!

I hope everyone has a happy and healthy summer and see you on the ice next season.



Duck of the Month

Red-billed Duck

(*Anas erythrorhynchos*)

These highly gregarious dabbling ducks form large flocks in southern and eastern Africa. They've been known to choose red rocks instead of the hammer after winning the coin flip.

Special Rec. -- *Jim Borgia*

Northeast Westchester Special Recreation curlers visited our club 12 times during the season. Our Friday afternoon meetings include an off-ice warm-up, practice delivery of stones, and a game. Eight and six players were signed up for the fall and spring seasons. Most use sticks but a couple use sliders.



They all enjoy it and have gotten better as the seasons went on. Here is a picture with 5 of 12 stones in the house during this game. Every one was celebrated. The spirit of curling is high with this group.



Ardsley Juniors

We have had a great season of Junior curling this year, and the best is yet to come with the Ardsley Junior Bonspiel at the end of March.



In February, we had two teams participate in the Neon Bonspiel at Nutmeg and we also visited the Nutmeg curling club for the 5th DuckMeg junior friendly on March 5th.

Gordon International

Robert Gordon was a member of the St. Andrews CC and was the first patron of the GNCC. He presented the Gordon International Curling Medal to curlers of the US and Canada in 1884. Competition alternates between the US GNCC and Canada's RCCC each year.



Tim Klein, Joe Sablow, Chris Banino, Tom Vespo



The medal remained in Canada this year (unless Chris pocketed it after the photo). Competition returns to Schenectady Curling Club next year. Men get ready to bring the medal back to New York in 2024!

Over/Under

Congrats to Matt, Chase, Katie and 12-year old Aanya. They put together two nice wins and came out champions at Ardsley's Over/Under held on February 26.



Kayser

Ardsley was represented at this year's Kayser in Nashua by the team of Holly Halmo, Jonathan Leung, Astrid Mel, and Mike Horowitz. The team got off to a strong start with 2 wins. However, in a scheduling quirk, they lost their third game to the eventual A-event runners-up and were knocked out of the bonspiel!

USWCA

Gail Boggio, Gudrun Sablow (skip), Heather Wadley, and Judith Kelson represented Ardsley at this year's USWCA National Women's Bonspiel. The event was held at Bowling Green Curling Club, Feb. 15-19 with 32 teams from around the country. The Longnecker rink from Cape Cod came out on top.





<https://broomfitters.com/ardsley>

Ardsley now has a club shop on Broomfitters. Try it for great merchandise like shirts, hats, sweatshirts, water bottles and the popular "I don't hate it" shirt. If you buy through the link, or use the code "Ardsley" at checkout you'll receive a 5% discount.

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Duck Soup: Official Newsletter of the Ardsley Curling Club
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