

DUCK SOUP

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





Thanks to our hard working ice crew and numerous off-season volunteers, the 2024-25 season kicked off on Oct 7 with the newly named Austin Competitive League. This year also brings back the restructured Saturday Dinner League. And, the inaugurual Ardsley Open Doubles Spiel is sure to add excitement to the December calendar.

Save the Date:

Boospiel: Oct 25-27

Cool Duck: Nov 7-10

Doubles Spiel: Dec 12-14





Good luck and good curling to everyone. We look forward to seeing you this season.

Volunteer of the year!

Jeff Greenberg won the Volunteer of the Year Award at last May's closing dinner. Chances are you'll run into Jeff almost any time you stop by the club. He's always helping out at our numerous bonspiels, open houses, and other events. Plus he manages to keep the ACC web site functioning.

Jim Duke presents the Volunteer plaque to Jeff





Austin Competitive League

Our own George Austin was also honored at the dinner with the Monday night league renamed after him. No doubt we will see his name listed among the winners on the new Austin Competitive League trophy.



George (center) with son Peter and team Stopera



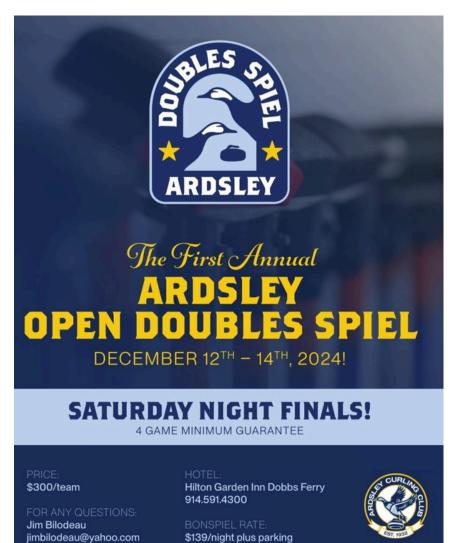
Olympic Doubles

Sarah Anderson and Andrew Stopera are among the 9 teams qualified for the US Olympic Team Trials in Mixed Doubles to be held in February, 2025. One additional team will join the ranks at the Last Chance Mixed Doubles qualifier bonspiel to be held in Eveleth, MN, Nov. 15-17, 2024. Registration is open to any team not yet qualified. There's still time Ardsley doubles players!!



More Doubles Action!





Tuesday night's Salmon Doubles League continues to thrive with League chair Jim Bilodeau.

Doubles action was doubled last year with the "drop-in" Sunday Doubles League run by Yoram Miller. Get in on the action Sundays at 5pm.

The fast-paced doubles game continues to grow in popularity, and this year marks the debut of the inaugural Ardsley Open Doubles Spiel to be held December 12-14. There's still time to register and make this event a success.

Saturday Dinner League



After a one year hiatus, the Saturday Night Dinner League is back! The dinner crew is a mix of 23 curlers, some competitive and others who can only come out on a few Saturday nights, but really want to see their friends, and have a good time. Plus one 6 month-old future curler. Teams are organized each week to ensure they are balanced, and curlers can play a new position if they desire.

What makes Saturday night special is dinner. The curlers and guests get surprised after each game with a delicious three course meal provided by the curlers themselves. Everyone who eats chips in \$10 to reimburse the cooks for their expenses. The meals can vary from pizza and cookies to roast turkey! Whatever comes to mind. In the past, our cooks have been great at accommodating food allergies and preferences --- Watch the spice in that chili! Or no peppers = allergic.

Saturday Dinner League (con'd)

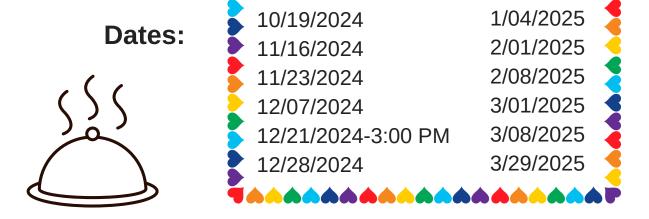
Saturday night is not all about food. We still enjoy the competition and love the recognition at the end of the season ceremony. In order to award players who are on winning teams, and to acknowledge curlers who attend frequently, and especially those who cook, we have devised a point scoring system for the year.

- 1) Each player on a winning team gets 3 points.
- 2) If the game is tied, each player on both teams gets 2 points.
- 3) Every curler who plays gets 1 point for participation.
- 4) Whoever brings dinner or dessert gets a bonus point.

In this league, attendance and volunteering really counts. We will request curlers to confirm attendance and their guests several days prior to Saturday to help the cooks with their meal planning. While this is not a drop in league, we welcome curlers from other leagues who want to join us. Just email Diane and Jim Borgia to let us know you are interested in playing. We will find a way to fit you in.

We have the ice from 4:30 – 6:30 pm on Saturdays when there are no evening events scheduled. The Saturday Night league is discounted at \$450 since it does not most event week.

not meet every week.



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PAGE 6 OCTOBER 2024



Jeff Casper asked me to take over as Duck Soup editor 10 years ago, the same year the club got new stones. The Northern Pintail was my first "duck of the month" followed by 53 more ducks. I didn't expect to be the second longest editor in ACC Duck Soup history, but here we are 10 years later.

Since the founding of the club, its emblem has been a flying duck grasping a curling stone. Why you ask? It harkens back to the days when stones were delivered following a backward arm swing, sometimes landing unevenly and waddling down the ice like a duck. Secretary, Cuyler Stevens introduced Donald, the Ardsley Duck on December 27, 1943. The graphic above adorned the top of each Duck Soup issue for over 60 years. Stu Peabody (secretary 1935-38) is credited for the name.

In the early days, the club secretary was responsible for mailing out a weekly newsletter to all members. This continued until 1965 when the Duck Soup editor became a separate appointed office. Numerous editors came and went, few lasting over a year. George Shirk, Jr. stepped in one year at a time every few years for the next 20 years and would sign most issues with an interesting quote.

Bob Hill embraced the role of Duck Soup editor in the late 1980s. His last issue on May 7, 2006 was the final appearance of the Donald Duck Soup graphic above. Bob hand wrote each issue, and his wife Jinny edited and typed them onto ditto sheets and mimeographed the copies at the Ardsley Country Club's office.

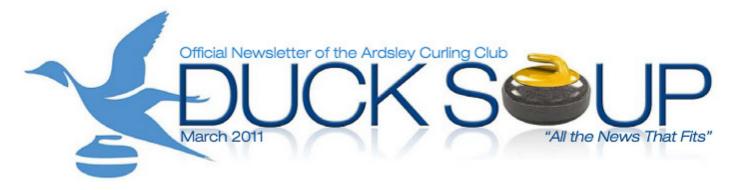


The History of Duck Soup (con'd)

In 2017 I scanned all back issues of Duck Soup I could find in the ACC files and made them available online. There are some gaps from 1975-78 when there was no editor. Also an interlude from 1992-1997 when Duck Soup was replaced with something called House Calls. Bob Hill resumed the role of editor again in 1997 and the Duck Soup we knew and loved returned.



Ted Pitt took over as editor 2006-2010 and issues began to appear on the Ardsley website in addition to being printed. A new nameplate banner was adopted, and photos (in color) started to appear in the newsletter.



Joe Panella worked his magic and improved the look of the newsletter bringing his talent as Graphic Designer to issues from 2011-2017. Joe worked with editors Jeff Casper, Ray Ullmer, and myself.

Since 2017, the newsletter has been distributed electronically, and all issues dating back to 1943 can be found online at: https://ardsleycurling.club/ducksoup/





Duck of the Month

Labrador Duck

(Camptorhynchus labradorius)

This odd sea-duck was the first known endemic North American bird species to become extinct with the last known sighting in 1878 in Elmira, NY.

Bollywood in Norway

Vinay and Team India hobnobbed with other curling celebrities at the Nordic Cup in Oslo last month. They will be competing at the Pan Continental in Lacombe, Canada later this month.





J'n' C BBQ

Ardsley members enjoyed a trip to Eric Symbouras' new restaurant in Vernon Township, NJ this summer. Look for more good food from Eric at some of our Bonspiels.

Being Hopeful -- by Aanya Goenka

In the dawning light of a brand new day, We hold our dreams and fears at bay. For in the future, bright and wide, We find the hope to stand with pride.

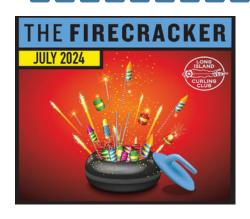
Though trials may come and challenges rise, We will lift our heads and reach for the skies, For in the unknown, lies endless possibilities, And the chance to shape our destiny.

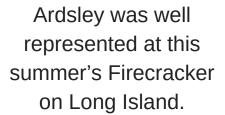
So let's embrace the future, yet to unfold, With courage and optimism, strong and bold, For in our hearts, the flame of hope will burn, Guiding us forward at every turn.

As we walk towards the horizon, shining and clear, Let's cherish the hope that brought us here, For in the promise of tomorrow, we'll always find, The strength and faith to leave our fears behind.







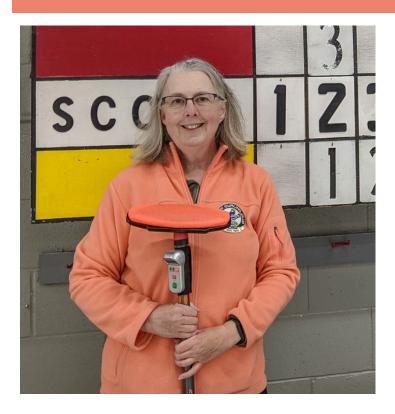














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