

North Mountain Drive
Ardsley-on-Hudson, NY 10502



Upcoming Events

Cherry Blossom (Open)
Thur. March 27 - Sun. March 30
Potomac Curling Club

Spring Fling (Open)
Thur. March 27 - Sun. March 30
Petersham Curling Club

Bonsqueal (Open)
Wed. April 09 - Sun. April 13
Plainfield Curling Club

Lighthouse Beach Spiel (Open)
Sat. June 21
Coastal Carolina Curling Club

**A complete calendar of GNCC events
is available at gncc.org**

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2014 Curling Nationals in Philadelphia



Played once again so close to home for us, about two dozen ACC members made the journey to watch the final day of competition. Although our mostly home team of Tyler George, Bill Stopera, Dean Gemmel and Martin Sather played very well at times during the preceding week they came up just a couple short to move on to the playoff round.

The ladies final of Pottinger vs Spatola was a pistol of a game, coming down to a last rock from Allison that needed to be wide enough to avoid guards but still sit perfectly near the

button. She just missed, giving Nina Spatola and her rink a well-deserved win.

One twist here is that due to accumulated points, it will be Team Pottinger representing the US in world play, not Spatola. However, anyone who watched that game can spot the up and comers Nina and her rink are – we'll be hearing much more from them in the future.

Conversely, a similar arrangement was in place on the men's side for John Shuster. Needing only a top 3 finish to lock up a World invitation, he fell just short. This meant the remaining men were playing straight up for the chance to go, and it was in this context that Pete Fenson played a commanding championship game against Craig Brown, earning an early handshake and a ticket to St. John for world play. Everyone in attendance was treated to some spectacular elite level curling from Team Fenson, frequently delighting the crowd with various high-precision run-back shots.

A fun time for all who went, and a great day of elite US curling!

Eaton Rink Enjoys 8-Ender



Andy Eaton, Martin Levy, Darrel Seife and Tomoko Tanii were graced with curling immortality in Thursday night league play when they scored a rare 8-ender! With no pressure whatsoever, (other than the rapt attention of everyone at the club both on and off the ice), Andy drew his last into the rings to put it in the books. Congratulations!



78th Annual McKay-Douglas

The McKay-Douglas was a success once again this year under the care of organizer and "Delegator-in-Chief" Jeff Lesuk!

There were many volunteers who helped make the event special for all the participants – it seemed almost every ACC member lent a hand at some point in time. A special thanks to Martin Sather and his ice crew,

and to the hard-working food committee, including Matt Scheiner, Leeza Furnan, Darrel Seife, John Dorff, Jeff Casper, Laura Hill, Lauren Paul and Robin Gestring just to name a few.



SCHENECTADY

1st Event Douglas Medal
Bill Stopera, Jack Stopera,
Brian Damon, Dan Machold



NUTMEG

2nd Event NY Caledonian Medal
Matt Bertonica, Kyle Slover,
Mark Malkin, Nigel Lucas



ARDSLEY 1

3rd Event Ardsley Medal
Gert Messing, Mike Murphy,
Will Pryor, Chris Banino



ARDSLEY 2

4th Event Williamson Medal
Dan Tufaro, Jon Peter, David Schrull,
David Waggenheim, Jeff Klein



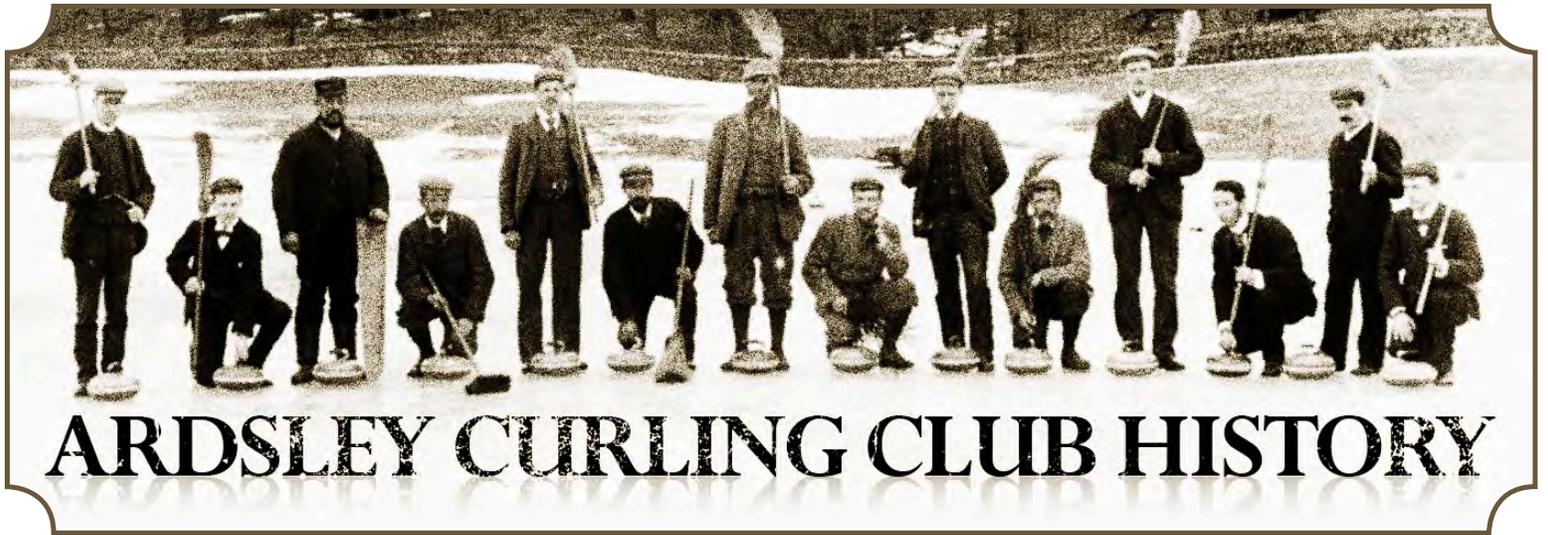
ARDSLEY 7

5th Event Mahopac Medal
Jeff Casper, Mike Courts,
Luke Hanson, Bill Malgieri



PHILADELPHIA 1

6th Event St. Andrews Medal
Roger Baldwin, Arthur Willson,
Zac Gery, Rich Hess



Curling In Westchester Before 1952

Gender Equality, What's That?

Geoff Broadhurst

In 1973 ACC historian Joe Ringland wrote *The History of the Ardsley Curling Club -We're Brithers A'*.

From Chapter 6: *"Enter the Ladies and Youth"*:

"Women and children first" has been the cry in many situations over the years. But not so in curling, where male chauvinism kept the game for themselves for many years if not centuries. The game from its inception has been truly a great brotherhood with the motto "We're Brithers A'". But brotherhood was used in its narrow masculine sense, rather than as a broad term for all mankind.

It was not until the first half of this century that the ladies moved into curling, probably starting in Canada. In Westchester, the ladies organized the Wicks Curling Club, not associated with any of the men's clubs of that time (i.e. St Andrew's, Ardsley, Mahopac, NY Caledonian CCs). They were admitted to full membership of the Westchester Curling Association on October 9, 1952. They curled during daytime at St. Andrews as men "worked" and needed curling ice in the evening. The Wicks curling suffragettes had to negotiate hard against the male dominance to get their foot in the curling rink. Ardsley's own Jane Wells and Maggie Sibert joined the Wicks in the fall of 1960. When Ardsley CC opened its own ice in 1967, Ladies' and mixed curling were involved from the outset.

Unfortunately, no old photos of Jane Wells and Maggie Sibert are available. Jane was the wife of Richard Wells (see January 2014 Duck Soup) and Maggie was the wife of Ed Sibert our ACC president in 1966-7 when our rink was constructed. Ed was always most pleasant and after a teammate's poor shot would often say "No harm done."

Today, only 30% of US curlers are women which is also the current status at Ardsley CC. Women formed the USWCA in 1947

to foster women's curling and the current USWCA Policy is "To unite women's curling clubs throughout the United States, to cultivate friendly relations among its members and their clubs, to promote international friendships, to preserve the tradition and literature of the game and to hold women's curling events each year. The Mission is: To develop, nurture and promote the sport of curling among today's women and all youth. Indeed, the USWCA is the Heart of Curling."



When St. Andrew's CC shut down in 1986, the Westchester Wicks merged with Ardsley Ladies to become ARDWICKS, with its own Constitution and Bylaws (see ARDWICKS website <https://sites.google.com/site/ardwicks/>). The ARDWICKS Annual Meeting will be convene soon to discuss past and future ARDWICKS plans and elect new Officers, approve Committee chairs that will manage Tuesday night and Thursday morning curling leagues, manage internal and external women's bonspiels and represent ARDWICKS at the USWCA.

At different times, ARDWICKS have enhanced the club facilities with new curtains and table cloths, painted the men's and ladies lavatories and contributed to the compressor replacement fund etc. ARDWICKS operates under the umbrella of the ACC but provides the perspective of ACC women curlers.

A Bonny Curl in Westchester

Leeza Furman

Even though the big move of ladies into curling happened in the early part of last century, surprisingly, one of the first printed references to our sport involved two teams of women! On 23-February 1740, the Ipswich Journal, a newspaper from Suffolk, England mentioned a “famous Curling Match between the married Wives and Young Girls” of Tynron Parish in Nithsdale, in Dumfries and Galloway(1). The Wives won in case you wondered.

Two hundred years later in the first home of Ardsley Curling Club, St. Andrews, women were not at liberty to enter the main building, except through a separate door from the outside. Inside were a tiny sitting room and a powder room. There was also a door from the lobby into the sitting room through which gentlemen, after knocking, could pass liquid refreshments for the ladies to enjoy by themselves. Later ladies were permitted in the warm room to watch their men curl (2).

Ladies curling entered Westchester when the Westchester Wicks Curling Club was formed in 1952. The ladies would play in a number of events during curling season: Mixing Bowl, Medley, Stewart, All American, McKenzie, Senior Championship, Junior Championship, and finally, the Wicks Cup Bonspiel. An article about the Wick’s match against Scottish Ladies was featured in February, 1958 issue of Sports Illustrated (3)! The club issued a newsletter called Wicks Words. A copy of a 1978 edition and multiple-year records of winners of above mentioned events can be found in Ardsley archives.

Westchester Wicks ladies were amongst founders of the Empire State Bonspiel. In 1954 several women’s bonspiels in New York State were having difficulties with getting enough participants. Representatives of the Utica Glengarries, the Schenectady Women, and the Westchester Wicks met in a hotel in New York to formulate a plan for a rotating bonspiel to be submitted to the respective clubs for their consideration. The name, Empire State Bonspiel, was adopted. It was

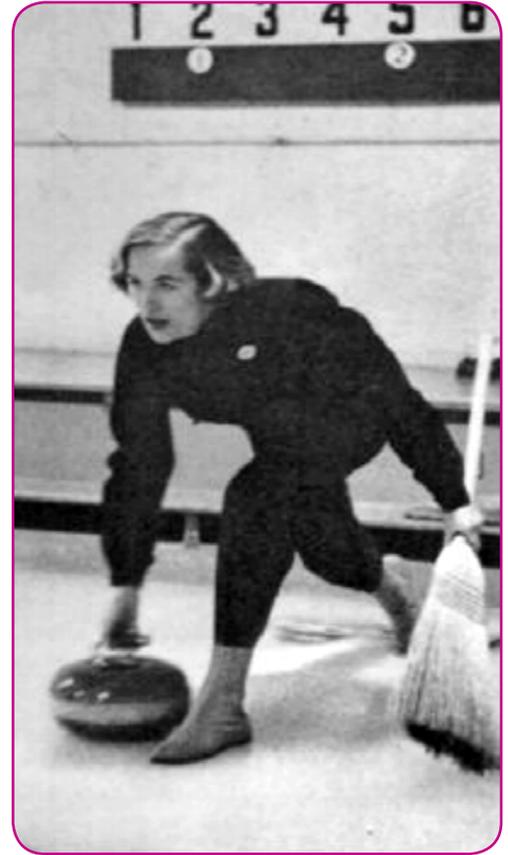
agreed that each club would retain its club trophy and that a medal be struck for the winner of the first event. It will be Ardsley’s turn to host Empire State in January 2015.

After the Ardsley Curling Club moved into its own present home, the women curled on Thursday mornings with 24 curlers and 5 subs. Those women who had learned at St. Andrews became our first skips: Jane Wells, Mary Irons, Alice Nolan, Bea Self, Maggie Sibert, and Ann Dudley. Later, an evening women’s-only league was established to support growing ladies membership at Ardsley. A ladies junior skips event, the MacIntosh, was introduced in 2002 and named to honor Jean MacIntosh who has been playing at Ardsley since it opened its doors.



Jean MacIntosh. The Ladies Junior Skips event is named in her honor.

Ladies played in a number of friendly events one of which, Two Brooms, is still being played today. The competition started in 1971 between Ardsley Ladies, Nutmeg Women Curlers, and Westchester Wicks under the name Ard-Nut-Wick. It was renamed Three Brooms in 1972 and later Two Brooms after Ardsley Ladies and Westchester Wicks merged as one club under the name ARDWICKS.



Westchester Wick, Mrs. James Young, Hartsdale, N.Y., delivers stone. From Sports Illustrated, Feb 17 1958, pp.30-31

In addition to women-only leagues, mixed curling played an important role at Ardsley. Mixed curling took place on weekends. Very often women would bring dinner down for after the game. In those days there was a very slow funicular used for the golfers but which curlers could use to transport heavy things. Otherwise, before the steep winding path, there was a flight of about 80-90 steps straight up!

Mixed bonspiels were very popular at all the clubs that included TCC, Nutmeg, Norfolk, Utica, Albany, Schenectady, Wellesley, Braeburn, and others. The highlight of an event would be the Saturday dinner dance.

A Bonny Curl in Westchester

When Ardsley hosted a Mixed, a curling couple that lived close to the club would entertain for Saturday lunch. When Jean and Herb MacIntosh were co-chairs of the Ardsley spiel, Mac (Herb's nickname), who was with Brooks Brothers, had a special necktie made for each man. For years, New Year's Eve was a huge celebration for 70-80 Ardsley members with supper, lots of curling and ringing into the New Year. Fundspiels were a popular way to raise funds for various expenses. Club members would donate great prizes like weekends at someone's home at Jersey or Connecticut shore houses to be sold at silent auctions organized by Ardsley Ladies.

During the off-season women curlers get together approximately once a month, for an evening of relaxing fun at local restaurants. This tradition began in 2006 and has been organized since then by Nancy Clancy.

Competitive spirit has always been a part of Ardsley ladies curling lives. When the Ardsley competitive league (Thorndike) was established, an all-women team skipped by Kim Freeman entered the league. Ardsley ladies compete and bring hardware from many bonspiels within and outside the US. Ardsley is home to several ladies National Champions. Nancy Clancy has lead Ardsley teams to multiple event victories in USWCA National and USWCA Senior Nationals. Jean Murphy competed in the Olympic play downs and is a 2005 US Senior Women's National Champion. Joyance Meechai won the 2014 Mixed Doubles National title and will represent US at the 2014 World Mixed Doubles Championship in Dumfries, Scotland this April.

This article is by far not a complete account of Ardsley women's curling. Events, names, or achievements are undoubtedly missing. It is, however, a glimpse into the exciting and rich tradition of ladies' curling at our home club so integral to Ardsley's past, present and future.

With special thanks to Jean MacIntosh, Nancy Clancy, and Jean Murphy for their time and support for this article.

References:

- (1) *The Curling History Blog*, December 29, 2013; <http://curlinghistory.blogspot.com/>
- (2) *History of the Ardsley Curling Club -We're Brithers A'*, Chapter 3 by Joe Ringland, 1973
- (3) *Sports Illustrated*, Feb 17 1958, pp. 30-31
<http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/vault/article/magazine/MAG1001828/index.htm>



Postmatch Tea finds Mmes. Alexander, Stirrat, Forrester relaxing under portrait of John Reid, founder of St. Andrews and the father or America golf. From Sports Illustrated, Feb 17 1958, pp. 30-31

Mars Surface Viewer

Instructions: Click and drag this map to move around Mars, or select another location from the Mars Global Map below.

Just mouse over and click on craters, districts, and provinces to name them!

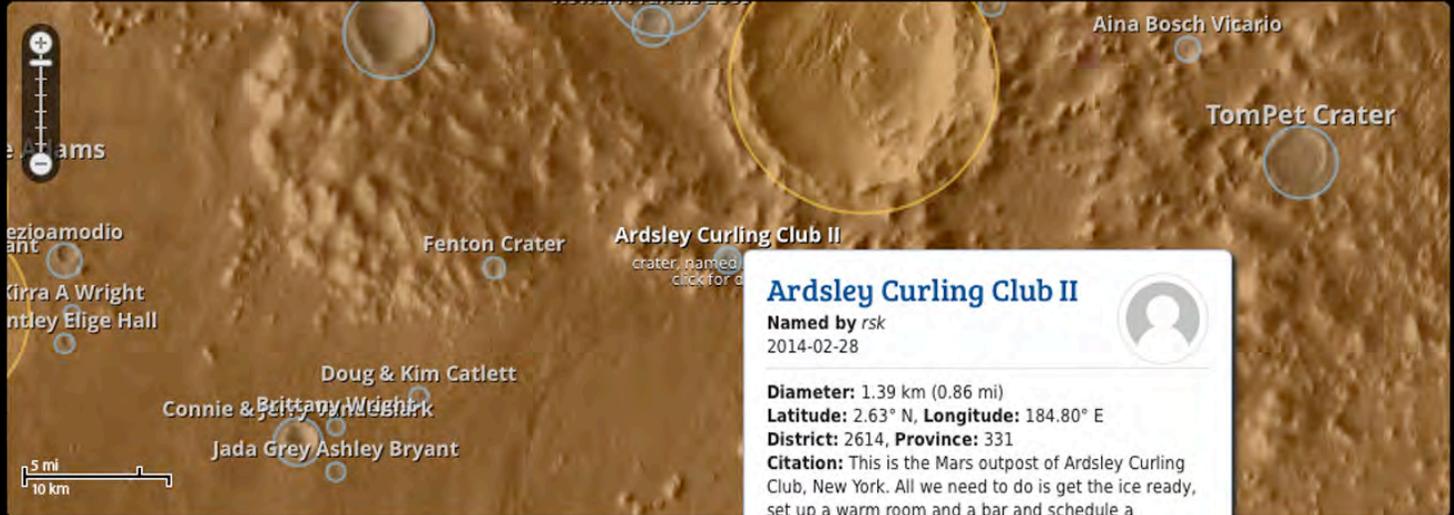
[About naming craters](#) [About Districts and Provinces](#)

View: All Craters Districts Provinces

Key: Named crater Available crater Reserved crater

Italicized text = previously named non-crater features.

District: 2614, **Province:** 331



Crater Data

Hover over craters in the Mars Surface Viewer to view Crater Data here. Click a crater to view full details or to name an available crater.

rs. Clicking an area on
area in the Viewer

First Curling Club on Mars

Never one to stand still, Bob Kennedy is always working towards a great future for the Ardsley Curling Club. Sometimes that requires true outside-the-box thinking. In this case, Bob's gone outside the box, off the planet, across the solar system, and on to the planet Mars! In a section of the planet near the equator referred to

by scientists as "Elysium," Bob has formally registered a crater there as "Ardsley Curling Club II" – the first and only curling club on the red planet!

Since it's been established by probes that ice lays just below the dusty surface, future astronauts may not have much work to do to get the site ready for

play. We'll need to wait on the World Curling Federation to rule if different gravity warrants a proportionally different stone density, but then again it's not clear whether they'd have jurisdiction in the matter.

For members interested in volunteer opportunities at ACCII, please call Bob.

The Ardsley Curling Pro Shop

Revamped this year under the management of Gert Messing, the ACC Pro Shop in our warm room is a tremendous resource for all the equipment you need on the ice. Top of the line brushes (including the very popular EQ and Norway brands), gloves, shoes and more are available. All prices are marked and you'll see they are very competitive with online shops. No need to go beyond our own warm room for supplies!



Ardsley Men Reach Francis Dykes 5-and-Under Finals



Matt Gallegos, Andy Eaton & Matt Scheiner all skipped teams at this year's 75th Annual Francis Dykes Memorial Men's 5-and-under in Schenectady. (Some games were also played at the nearby Albany Curling Club). The draw plan was unkind for Scheiner, whose team played very well and whose sole loss dropped him into an unusual E event "shootout round" where his tournament ended. Team Gallegos played Sunday in the A event final, and Team Eaton in the D event, but unfortunately neither could pull out one more victory. The last time an Ardsley team made the A event finals was 2001 (Jeff Lesuk, Jeff Paul, Jim McGinnis and Peter Austin). A great effort though for everyone who participated.

Messing Rink Reaches Semi-Finals of City of Ottawa Bonspiel

Gert Messing, Mike Murphy, Greg Poole-Day, and Chris Banino travelled through a blizzard in upstate New York to get to Ottawa, Ontario in order to compete against 112 teams at the City of Ottawa Bonspiel.



Ardsley Women Win C & D Event Finals at Elisabeth Childs Challenge 5-and-Under

Congratulations to Team Gallegos (Sharon Gallegos, Erin Durba, Barbara Gabhart, and Nicole Mikoleski) and Team Furman (Leeza Furman, Karen Luckey, Taylor Block and Leslie Avendano-Eaton) for winning the C and D event finals, respectively, of the Elisabeth Childs Challenge at the Utica Curling Club. Team Gallegos received handshakes early from a Philadelphia rink after a commanding game to earn their honors, but Team Furman played down to the very last stone thrown in the tournament on otherwise empty ice. Leeza delivered her hammer rock for a hit and stick to seal the deal against Schenectady. Ardsley was 7-2 overall at the bonspiel – not too shabby. Congratulations, ladies!

ACC Junior Curlers Making their Mark

Congratulations to junior curler Danny Casper for winning the Silver Medal on Team Clawson, and to Ellen Schoder and Seré Politano for winning the Bronze Medal on Team Schoder at the Plainfield Junior Bonspiel.

Also, congratulations to junior curler Will Pryor, with Team Suslavich for winning a GNCC spot in the Optimist U18 International Curling Championships. Andrew Stopera and Team Stopera finished second.

The future of Ardsley curling is in good hands!



Aggregate winner. (The Grand Aggregate is the finals of all the teams that have 1 loss after 5 or more games, including the event winners of the first four events.) A great effort to reach the semi-finals against such a large field!

Olympic Year Open Houses Yield More Than 65 New Members!

Raymond Ullmer

We attracted approximately 1,000 people to our Open Houses this year, resulting in more than 65 new members joining the club! A big thanks to Julie Everett and her team for all the organizational effort that went into

this huge enterprise, and to the army of volunteers on and off the ice who helped make it a great experience for all the guests who visited our club and tried out the great game.

“Learn to Curl” classes are now underway. Please reach out to Julie to lend a hand in bringing our newest members along.



Craig Brown calling for a draw in the 7th end against Pete Fenson at the finals in Philadelphia. (photo by Sharon Gallegos)

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