

Ardsley Curling Club, N Mountain Drive,  
Ardsley, NY 10502

May, 2010  
Season 2009-10, Issue 6

# DUCK SOUP

"All the News That Fits"

[www.ardsleycurling.org](http://www.ardsleycurling.org)

## Congratulations to Our End Of Year League Winners

### By League Runners

**Monday Thorndike/Bill Stopera:** Mike Murphy along with Gert Messing, Chris Banino, and Tom Doherty won the Monday night Thorndike league with a 18-2 overall record. This is the second year in a row that Team Murphy has won the club championship. The runner up was the team skipped by Dennis Mellerup.

The B Division champion was Walter Baggett and his team Tim Klein, David Waggenheim and Jeff Klein. The B Division winner was based off a point system that factored in the team's results throughout the entire year. I want to thank all the participants in the league for making this a successful year.

**Tuesday/Nancy Clancy:** Tuesday has four events: The MacIntosh (jr. skip), the All American (a national event held in every club), the Wells Wick (women's championship) and the Buddy System. In the second annual Buddy System, the back end competition was tight, with the winning duo, Sandy Gaffner & Mieko Takiguchi, (3-2-1) edging out Alice Yeh & Laurie Frees (3-3-0) by the difference of one tie game. The front end competition saw a perfect 6-0 record by Melissa Dominguez and Lyn Greaves.

In the Wells Wick Championship the Gold goes to Sandy Gaffner, Pam Siebert, Kim Nawyn, Dolores Redding, and Kris Liddle (4-1). The Silver goes to Pam Politano, Anne MacMillan, Carol Reynolds, Meiko Takiguchi, and Betsy Sysbema (3-2).

The MacIntosh league winners are Melissa Dominguez, Nancy Clancy, Pam Siebert, and

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Dolores Redding. Second place goes to Kim Nawyn, Pam Politano, Heather Morrison, and Pippa Broadhurst.

**Wednesday Night/Peter Austin:** The Wednesday night men's league was a huge success, despite not wrapping up until April 14th. Thanks go to all those who helped with the ice, especially following the power outage. We look forward to welcoming many new curlers next season.

The Blanton (first half) winners were Dave Schrull (S), Tom Doherty, Mike Shalhoub, and Michael Infranco (10-1). Silver went to Isa Barghout (S), George Austin, Matt Allen, and Pete McCuen (8-3).

The Wells (2<sup>nd</sup> Half) winners were Jeff Lesuk (S), Mike Courts, Mike Greene, Rich Chebetar, and Curt Pader (9-2). Silver goes to George Austin (S), Paul Huebner, Mike Shalhoub, Heinz Gruettner, and Bunkie Harmon (8-3). The Wells final standings came down to the last shot of the season. It was rumored that a play-by-play was being given to a Wells skip over the club pay phone! We look forward to similar excitement next season. See you in the Fall.

**Thursday Evening/Bob Kennedy:** Does it matter who won? The answer is yes, but only in the context of a really fun curling evening and great fellow curlers. The Thursday Evening League was a challenge this year; too

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## Headless Horseman Closes Out Season

By Ed Andrews

The year-end Headless Horseman Pull the Plug event drew very well this year: 14 teams (61 players) of which 22 curlers were 'learn to curl' new members. Here are the winners:

*1st Event: Washington Medal:* Winners: Bill Stopera, Bruce Huffine, Andrew Stopera, Tom Wick (new), Lennon Nersesian (new) Runners-Up: Mike Greene, Sandy Gaffner, Joe Auletta (new), Joe Panella (new). *2nd Event: Irving Medal* Winners: Gert Messing, Melissa Dominguez, James Skoufis (new), Jordan Becker (new) Runners-Up: Tom Doherty, Tim Klein, Chris, David, and Josh Falkowitz (new). *3rd Event: Katrina Medal* Winners: Dan Tufaro, Michelle Schleibaum, Ken Hsu (new), Jennifer Stein (new). Runners-Up: Walter Baggett, George Cowles, Sharon Jacquet, Mike Murray, Marion Cowles

Bob Hill was present to hand out the medals and to offer some of history of the event. This was the 39th consecutive year of the Headless Horseman. A piper and drummer were on hand to parade the finalists down the ice. A good time was had by all, I think.

## Notes From Nancy

By Nancy Clancy

Nancy Clancy, Mieko Takiguchi and Kris Liddle, with Majik Jones from Chesapeake, curled in the USWCA Senior Woman's Bonspiel in Grand Forks, North Dakota. They joined women from all over the U.S.

Ann MacMillan and Nancy Clancy answered a call from Flo Springstead to form an eleventh hour team, with two locals, for Albany's Dutch Shoe Spiel. Ann and Nancy had a very successful weekend, vying for the top prize in the costume event.

*USWCA Not-So Seniors*



*Headless Horseman Winners, with heads*



*Nutmeg CC Nutty Duck Winners with Trophy*

## The Nutty Duck

By Ed Andrews

Every year, we rotate between clubs to compete for what is known as the 'Nutty Duck" trophy (of sorts). This year, Nutmeg was host. We managed to round up 11 players from Ardsley with a spare provided by Nutmeg. The format was 2 – 8 end games separated by lunch. 2 points for a win and 1 point for each rock scored. The skips included Mike Greene, Walter Baggett and Tim Klein.

Basically, we lost collectively. The exact score escapes me but was something like 59 to 65. Being on home ice next year, we should be able to generate more interest and to recover the trophy.



## League Championships Continued

many curlers, not enough time, and changes to the schedule were tough. Yet somehow, none of these could dampen the spirit of Thursday evening. We had a great year with an amazing number of teams (8 teams of 5 curlers) and an interesting blend of experienced and new curlers on each team.

The first-half placements were:

First Place Winners – Team Schrull which included:  
Dave Schrull, Pam Siebert, Jim O'Connor, Karen Casper

Second Place Winners – Team Peter which included:  
Jon Peter, Jeff Klein, Kathryn Lockey, Peter McManus, and Darrel Seife

Third Place Winners – Team Siebert which included:  
Ed Siebert, Jeff Casper, John Dorff, & Ellen O'Connor.  
In the second-half we had an exciting and very close finish.

Second half placements were:

First Place Winners – Team Siebert which included:  
Pam Siebert, John Dorff, James Weeks, Ina Obernesser, & John Butler

Second Place Winners – Team Peter which included:  
Jon Peter, Jeff Klein, Kathryn Lockey, Peter McManus, & Darrel Seife

Third Place Winners – Team Baggett which included:  
Lillie Shortridge-Baggett, Jim McGinnis, Bob Kennedy, Lorraine Kuhn, & Jon Schuster

We wish to thank all of the curlers who made the season such great fun and provided an opportunity for the new curlers to learn and the seasoned curlers to show us how it supposed to be done.

Good curling. Great Evening.

*Saturday Morning/Steve Hess:* The Godbold League (Saturday mornings) had another successful year with a dependable core group playing nearly every weekend. This is an open league allowing curlers of any skill level (hello new curlers!) to participate. We try to get curlers into different team positions so they can learn strategy and shot making. It is a good league for learning more about the game and enhancing your skills.

For your planning next season, matches begin at 9:30am and we are done before noon. You will still have the balance of the day to do all those weekend routines. This Fall I need to limit the number of participants to 36 so we can have six teams with subs. If you want to sign-up now send me an email and I'll put you on the list—[hess@legalimages.com](mailto:hess@legalimages.com)

By the way, The Godbold League is named for a Ed Godbold, a curler renowned for his hand gestures. Ask any of the older members for an explanation. An attractive gold curling pin is awarded to the team that wins the Godbold and silver goes to the 2nd place team.

Good Curling!

*Saturday Afternoon/James Weeks:* The Saturday 4:30 (aka "Pot Luck Supper") league took a hard hit in membership early this season, due to attrition, several key injuries, and the passing of Jesse Wang. What started as one sheet of pick-up curling on our first draw grew through the season, however, until all three sheets were full every Saturday after the holiday break.

Social highlights of the season were the back-to-back packed houses for Lusine Balemian's "Welcome to Curling America" bridal party (*which Armen also attended*) and the Robert Burns Spiel in late January.

On the political front, George Cowles staged a bloodless coup d'etat, reluctantly taking charge of the league when it was noticed that the reigning commissioner had gone missing. Thank you George.

Culinary notes: Several new chefs stepped up to expand our menu, which remains prix fixe \$6 for a three course meal. Special mention must go to Jon Schuster's artisanal desserts, Bob & Barbara Kennedy's Italian banquets, and Jim Duke's unnamed Red Bull & vodka cocktail. Everybody obeyed Rule # 1 (Have fun!) and no one got hurt. Happy Summer!

## Ardsley Goes Into Outer Space

By Walter Baggett and Joel Jackel

On the Friday afternoon of April 16<sup>th</sup>, while everyone was preparing for the Headless Horseman, world famous astro-physicist, Michio Kaku and a five person TV filming crew from the British ITV television show, Sci-Fi Science (airing on the Science Channel), came through the Club house door and did some filming both on the ice and in the warm room.

So who is Michio Kaku, and why is he world famous?

Michio Kaku was born in San Jose, California in 1947. His parents met while at a relocation camp for Japanese American citizens during WW2. In fact, his brother was born at the camp. Dr. Kaku was discovered by Manhattan Project physicist, Edward Teller at a National Science Fair in the early 1960s. He attended Harvard and graduated summa cum laude in 1968 with a B.S. in physics and subsequently earned a PhD from UC Berkeley in 1972. He taught at Princeton in 1973 before he entered the army and completed basic training at Fort Benning and advanced infantry training at Fort Lewis. But the Vietnam War ended before he was deployed.

He often appears on news networks when something scientific is in the news (i.e., the Icelandic Volcano). Often, he has been the centerpiece of scientific programming such as Stephen Hawking's Universe, Einstein Revealed, Parallel Universes, Nova: The Elegant Universe, 2057, Visions of the Future, and many more. He also is the host of a weekly radio program called Explorations which deals with topics such as science, war, peace, and the environment.

He has held a lectureship at City College of CUNY and the CUNY Graduate center for over 30 years. His specialty is string theory which he co-founded in 1974. String theory says, in a very simplified form, that all subatomic particles are composed of strings which vibrate in different ways. This would connect the four fundamental forces of the universe: gravity, electromagnetism and the strong and weak nuclear

forces. For example, Einstein was able only to connect three of these forces. He was unable to fit gravity into his theories. For string theory to work, there must be 10 (possibly 11) dimensions, of which we are aware of 4: length, width, height and time. Mathematically, string theory works but there is no direct experimental evidence to test it. Accordingly, it is very much a work in progress.

His latest book, *Physics of the Impossible*, examines the technologies of invisibility, teleportation, precognition, star ships, antimatter engines, time travel and more—all regarded as things that are not possible today but that might be possible in the future. In this book, he ranks these subjects according to when, if ever, these technologies might become reality.

He came to the Ardsley Curling Club to use curling ice and stones to demonstrate his theory of what we (us folks on the earth) should do if a killer meteor should happen to be heading in our direction. Specifically, to demonstrate this, he had us place a ring of yellow handled stones around the four foot circle on the far end of sheet A. The meteor was represented by a red rock thrown towards it from the warm room end. In the final, edited version, it will look like Dr. Kaku, stabilizer in hand has delivered the stone. In reality, Bill Stopera delivered a “high hard one” dead down the center, as only he can. Needless to say, the circle of stones, and by analogy, the earth, was completely obliterated.

So how does Dr. Kaku propose we solve this problem? Here it becomes interesting. The producer taped two aerosol canisters onto the red meteor stone. Once the camera starts to film, Dr. Kaku clamps them open, so a stream of vapor shoots out of the aerosol cans. The cans are so positioned that, with the stones not rotating, the impression is given that the stone veers off the center line, missing the circle of stones and humanity is saved from

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## Broadhurst Wins First Annual Jesse Wang Volunteer Award

By Vic Huebner

The annual awards dinner was held May 7<sup>th</sup>. Attendance was 85 curlers with approximately 12 first year curlers attending. Geoff Broadhurst was honored with the Jesse Wang Volunteer of the Year Award. This year's Rookie of the Year Award went to Jon Shuster.

Also, Dave Schrull and his Ice Committee's excellence was recognized along with the on ice achievements for each of our leagues.

As an aside, The Clean-up effort on May 8 was accomplished by 11AM as a result of 23 hard working volunteers!



*Congratulations to our new Officers and a hearty thank you to those completing their terms.*

## Board of Directors Elects New Officers

By Vic Huebner

Several items of note were accomplished at the last Board of Directors meeting.

First, the meeting passed a resolution electing the following officers for the following season:

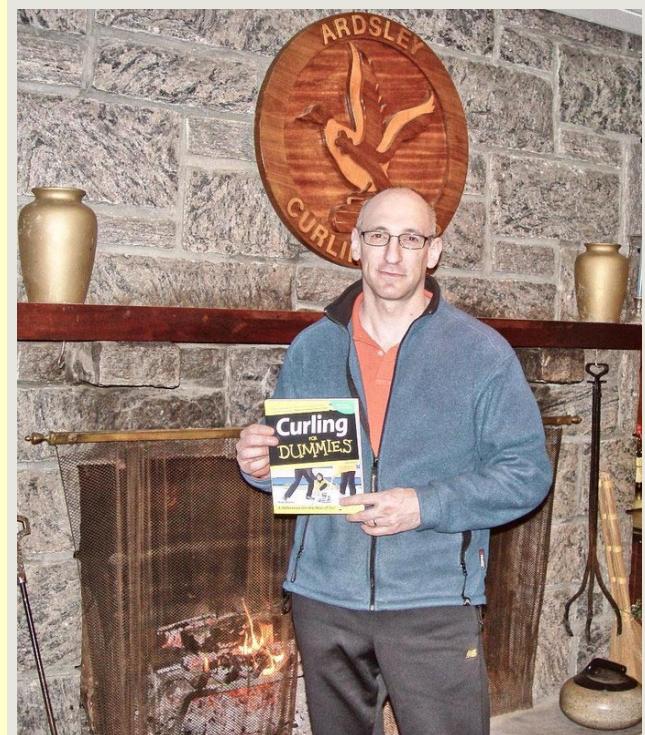
**Mark Bussy as Secretary**

**Tim Klein as Treasurer**

**Scott Silverman as Vice President**

**Vic Huebner as President**

The author outlined his plans for a more comprehensive Committee structure. Committees planned include House, Finance, Training, Membership, Ice, Corporate Events, and the McKay Douglas. These were only some of the committees proposed. If any members are interested in serving on these committees please let your preferences be known to the President.



*ROY Winner Jon Shuster with required reading*

## Ardsley Goes Into Outer Space (Continued)

Destruction! Amazing! Perhaps unbelievable? All this required any number of photo shoots, but eventually enough film was taken so that the sequence showing Dr. Kaku clamping the bottles, delivering the stone (meteor) which duly veers off course and saves the earth can be edited together. Dr. Kaku then sits on the walkway along the side of the ice and later on repeats the explanation in the warm room of why this is much better than merely exploding a meteor, since the debris from such an explosion would still hit the earth.

I bet you did not know the Ardsley Curling Club with

stones and ice would be instrumental in saving humanity.

Anyway, the TV program he was shooting is based on his book, where he demonstrates his theories and how we might achieve the things we see in current sci-fi. The show is in its 2nd season of production and should premier the second season shows in December. You may see some of us, who were throwing rocks as background material, on television next year. Next thing you know, Ardsley curlers will be master of the universe!

## Photo Year in Review

By Bob Kennedy



## Thank You Everyone

By Jeff Casper

The first thing I learned about doing Duck Soup is that it really does take a village. Believe it or not nearly 30 different curlers have contributed to these 6 little issues this season. Many have contributed multiple times. You have all been so gracious about my leaning on you for stories and have been understanding when I mess something up. All I really do is edit. The content comes from you (multiple contributors are marked with an asterisk):

Matt Allen, Ed Andrews\*, George Austin\*, Peter Austin\*, Chris Banino, Walter Baggett\*, Geoff Broadhurst\*, Pippa Broadhurst, Adam Chebetar, Nancy Clancy\*, Mike Courts, Julie Everett, Robin Gestring, Steve Hess, Vic Huebner\*, Bob Kennedy\*, Jeff Klein, Tim Klein, Jeff Lesuk\*, Anne MacMillan, Joyance Meechai, Jim McGinnis, Kim Nawyn\*, John Noble, Dave Schrull, Matt Scheiner, Gary Suslavich (Brooms Up Curling), James Weeks.

Bob Kennedy was always there for my formatting issues as well.

I hope our readership continues to improve. As always please share with me any suggestions. This is your newsletter after all.

The Casper trio is embarking on our usual overload of sports this curling off-season. And we're introducing kayaking into the mix. We hope you and yours have a wonderful next few months. See you all in the fall.

## Curling at Mayfield CC

By George Austin

Last November, George Austin traveled to Cleveland to participate in the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual men's bonspiel at Mayfield Curling Club. He teamed with skip Greg Eigner of Fort Wayne, IN and two young curlers from Detroit Curling Club. Under the Kalamazoo CC banner they went 3-1 and were runners-up in the 1<sup>st</sup> Event. They lost to Bryan Wight of Bowling Green, OH. The Mayfield event attracted 18 teams including 9 from Canada. The social side included a house party hosted by a Mayfield member.

**Editor**

Jeff Casper

**Phone:**

845-598-3100

**E-Mail:**

[jcasper@tabonline.com](mailto:jcasper@tabonline.com)

**Photos:**

Ed Andrews

Nancy Clancy

Bob Kennedy