

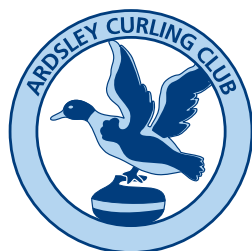


Official Newsletter of the Ardsley Curling Club

DUCK SOUP

March 2013

"All the News That Fits"



North Mountain Drive
Ardsley, NY 10502

calendar notes

Cherry Blossom (open)
Potomac Curling Club
Thur Mar 21 - Sun Mar 24

Spring Fling (open)
Petersham Curling Club
Thur April 4 - Sun Apr 7

Rochester International (mixed)
Rochester Curling Club
Fri Apr 5 - Sun Apr 7

Bonsqueal (open)
Plainfield Curling Club
Wed Apr 10 - Sun Apr 14

Lighthouse Beach Spiel (open)
Coastal Carolina Curling Club
Sat Jun 8

Tropicurl (open)
Pittsburgh Curling Club
Thurs July 4 - Sun July 7

A complete calendar of events is available at www.gncc.org

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McKay Douglas Brings In Out of Town Winners

Jeff Casper

Anyone surveying the surroundings on the last draw of this year's McKay Douglas was pleased to see that all six remaining teams were from other clubs. Bonspiel Chair Jeff Lesuk noted that fact before our finalists took the ice while thanking them for coming from all around to compete in the 77th running of the spiel.

Club volunteers and spectators settled in to watch a riveting A Event final pitting returning Team Philadelphia against Team Denver. The back and forth affair went an extra end before Philadelphia claimed the McKay Douglas Gold Pin.

It was a sweet victory, as Philadelphia lead Ken Severeid notes. "It was our 4th trip to New York and we were so close each time. It felt great to finally break through. I was completely exhausted at the end, physically and mentally. We are really thrilled to win this bonspiel."



Denver's first runner up finalist status was especially noteworthy because they struggle to find curling opportunities. Denver as more experienced curlers will remember had a dedicated curling club years ago, but it was lost. Arena ice curling is the norm. The nearest dedicated facility is in Bismarck, a quick 700

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Ardsley Shines at the 65th Annual USWCA National Bonspiel

Pauline Davies



Nancy Clancy, Pauline Davies, Julie Everett and Laura Hill represented Ardsley at the 65th Annual USWCA National Bonspiel in Portage, WI from Feb. 13th - 17th, 2013. Thirty-two teams from all over the U.S. participated in this 4 day event. Our ladies came home winners of the Second Event! Congratulations to the team!

77th McKay-Douglas



PHILADELPHIA

1st Event Winner

Craig MacKinlay, Bruce Clouser,
Brian Dudt, Ken Seiverd



SCHENECTADY

2nd Event Winner

Bill Stopera, Jack Stopera
Brian Damon, Dan Machold



NASHUA

3rd Event Winner

Peter Lyons, Jack Tully
Eli Whitney, Jack DuPre

McKay Douglas Brings In Out of Town Winners

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mile drive from their homes. Now this core group of hardened curlers is trying to build a new club. Fundraising efforts are underway.

Jeff Lesuk wishes to thank the many volunteers who make this spiel work. "I have received many thank yous and accolades from the participating teams, and several notes from clubs who have returned home and thought to write to say what a terrific weekend they had. It was more than just "the work" part of it. It was the attitude and feeling that they all mentioned. Art Willson, from Philly, tells us he never hangs around the club

during a bonspiel, yet did so all day on Saturday and had a wonderful time. The Denver team chooses its rare bonspiel trip depending on their teachers' winter break, and will keep us on the top of the list if the schedule permits. I have received mentions from many other teams congratulating us on a successful bonspiel. It was more than what we provided on the tables, it was the cheerfulness and spirit in which everyone welcomed the curlers as if it were home. I am writing to say, warmly, thank you. And, to also say, that you should be very proud of what you accomplished on behalf of the club. Congratulations!"

It's a huge effort every year for Ardsley Curling Club to put on this event. The level of volunteerism and organization is at its yearly apex. Jeff would also like to specifically thank, in addition to the food preparers and detail organizers, the Wilks generosity for the raffle, Lynne Greaves and Nicole Mikoleski for handling apparel sales so well, and the scores of others that made the weekend a huge success. He also reserves a special thank you for Pete McCuen, who after many years of organizing the journal, is stepping down.

Thank you everyone!

Notes From The A Event Finalists

Denver and Philadelphia squared off in the A Event Final that went right down to the wire, with an extra end. Here are some notes they agreed to share with us.

First Event Winner Philadelphia

Craig Mackinlay has taken our team (Bruce Clouser, Brian Dudt and Ken Seiverd) up to the McKay Douglas for the last several years. His daughter, Catie, now curls out of Ardsley. Unfortunately, Craig

was not able to be with us this year. Brian Dudt's son, Daniel, filled in for us this year in Craig's absence. We hope Craig will be back next year.

Craig curled in the McKay Douglas a number of years back and previously won the bonspiel curling with a Philly rink skipped by Dan Boerger. I too curled in the McKay many many years back and was fortunate enough to curl with a rink skipped by Peter Mitchell that won the event. It's great competition, great people, beautiful location and such a well run event. Hats off to the Ardsley club

and its members for running such a nice curling event.

It was a see saw battle with the Colorado skip making two back to back perfect draws in the 7th end just to stay in the game. They then took it to us in the 8th and we were fortunate just to get the game to an extra end. Our team executed the peel strategy beautifully in the 9th with Daniel Dudt, a competitive junior curler, making a phenomenal peel shot

77th McKay-Douglas

clearing out all of the guards out in front of the house. I just had to make an open hit and stick on the last shot to win it. My Vice, Brian Dudt, told me after the shot, and fortunately after the shot, that the audience behind the glass was jokingly chanting to hit and roll out for a 10th end.

We were exhilarated and mentally wiped out at the same time. The Colorado rink was a very strong team and the game was close and intense up through the last shot. We were fortunate to come out on top.

Absolutely we will be back, and we hope to have Craig back with us.

We had a great time and should team schedules allow (that's is always the biggest conflict) we definitely hope to be back.

First Event Runner Up Denver

Having traveled to both regular bonspiels and national events around the country and British Columbia I can say that the hospitality of the Ardsley Club and the other teams we played was fantastic. Between the never-ending food and continual warm receptions from everyone thanking us for coming from Colorado, we really had a lot of fun. I know some of the other team members mentioned that specifically as other Denver club members asked during our league night last Friday.

The last game was a good one for the crowd I guess -- having the A final go to an extra end and be the only game on the ice. I don't think it was the best played game by either team, but there were some solid shots made throughout. Spotting them 5 in the 2nd end made for an uphill

battle, but my team never quits and we've come back from more daunting deficits in the past. I had to make 2 draws to a piece of the button against 4 in the 7th which allowed us to come home in the 8th needing to steal a single point. The team set up the guards well and their only option was a draw to the full 12 foot for us to only steal one. In the extra end, their 2nd made a double peel and spilled the shooter, so we just couldn't get a good steal opportunity to win. Hats off to the Philadelphia team -- a great bunch of guys and an exciting (although disappointing for us) way to finish off the bonspiel!

From the 4 of us though, thanks again to all of the people who helped with the bonspiel and to the Ardsley Curling Club in general. Maybe we'll get 2 teams from Colorado in the future!

Open House is Well Run and Well Staffed

Jeff Casper

Membership Chair Julie Everett has once again outdone herself in the quest to gain new membership. Along with a vast network of volunteers, there was a decent turnout. Historically, the third year after the Olympics has the most sparsely attended open houses, but Julie and team made it happen anyway. Here are her notes on the day:

The results of the Open House are as follows:

Attendees	57
Net Door Receipts	\$878.00
Volunteers who made it happen	16

Susan Lapham, Laura Hill, Ed Andrews, Erin Durba, Leeza Furman, Andy Ness, Curt Pader, Harry Quinn, Delores Redding, Sharon Jacquet, Mike Infranco, Anthony Galiani, Tom Doherty, Mark Everett, Doug Hill, Karen Luckey.

It is clear from the Open House registration forms that WE, the members of the Ardsley Curling Club are our own best advertisement (and cheap too!); of the 57 attendees, 23 were invited by our members! There's nothing like first-hand knowledge to be able to sell an idea or product. We have a sales team of 230!

Julie went on to add that we should do the same with the Learn To Curl Class by spreading the word through our members.

Kayser is Fun, as Always

Lynn Salmon



Team Yang, (left to right) vice Lynn Salmon, 2nd John Salmon, skip Yushi Yang and lead Karen Luckey

We lost our first game, bumping us down to B bracket. We won our 2nd game (beating the team that went on to be the C-event winner) then lost our next game after a hard fought, close battle. We then rallied to win our next two games to take the E event final prize of matching, engraved pickle forks.

A total of 4 Ardsley teams played at the Kayser in Utica this year. The other 3 were:

Team Gallegos: Matt, Sharon with Jan and Nicole Zahour

Team Ullmer: Ray Ullmer, Leeza Furman plus Nick Beaton and Erin Durba

Team Scheiner: Matt Gallegos with Barbara Gabhart, Mike Spensieri and Nicole Mikoleski

News from Sheet Bee

Judith Kelson



Jan Zahour, Tom Wilk, Dino Ness, Barbara Wilk, winners of the 3rd Event at the Ardsley Curling Club 2013 Burnspeerl.

Post-curling conversation can help you find a recommendation for a restaurant, movie or travel location. For Tom Wilk, talk led to a new passion that has changed his life and might also improve our local environment. In April of last year, Tom sat down with Jan Zahour in the Club's warm room after Friday night curling. Tom mentioned that beekeeping was of interest to him, and Jan said, "I've always wanted to be a beekeeper!"

Since Tom reports that "whenever I get involved in something new I delve headfirst and learn as much as I can," he and Jan soon took classes offered by the New York City Beekeepers Association to learn how to get started. Andy Ness joined Tom and Jan after they had taken classes. By summer they had hives in a variety of locations, including a community garden in Long Island City and an urban farm in Astoria.

They rescued 45 hives from Corona, Queens. A hive rescued from Harlem is now located in Susan Lapham's yard. Jan tends the Westchester hive, on which waves a flag from the Czech Republic to honor his native country.

Tom is an advocate for the health benefits of honey and bee pollen. "Honey can help with colds. Take buckwheat honey to soothe a sore throat. Honey can help with allergies. Bee propolis (known as Russian penicillin) is used to treat illnesses and infection. Beeswax is used to make lip balm and soaps. Bee pollen adds essential vitamins; honey can be used to treat wounds." He notes that it is important to buy honey that's not heated, filtered or pasteurized. The best source for fresh honey is from a local farmers market or local beekeeper.

Tom sees beekeeping as a way to get back to nature in an urban environment. Bees are key to aspects of agriculture such as pollinating fruit orchards. He hopes to increase awareness of the environmental need for a healthy bee population, and seeks to increase the number of local hives. His advocacy includes mentoring apprentices and searching for more yards and rooftops for hives.

Beehives need a space approximately 18" x 16" wide and about 3 feet high. They can be placed on rooftops or in yards where there is 15 feet in front to allow for the bees' flight path. Tom does not tend hives where climbing ladders is required. Luckily, Andy does, and he climbs up ladders holding beehives.

Their hives' urban neighbors appreciate the need for bees and support his activities. Some neighbors can be concerned about close proximity to beehives. Honeybees do not usually sting unless they are provoked. Although honeybees are gentle, they do protest when a human invades their hive.

Tom says "be prepared to be stung." He has met people who have never been stung, but that has not been his experience. There are some benefits to bee stings—Tom reports that being stung cured his gout.

While Tom, Jan, and Andy enjoy winter curling season, the bees need less attention. Inside the hives, the bees form a cluster around the queen bee and vibrate to keep warm. They slowly rotate within

the hive and eat stored honey. This winter has proven difficult for several of Tom's hives. He recently checked on two hives and discovered that one had no living bees in it. Colony collapse disorder as well as mites can decimate a hive.

Tom's next goals include expanding the Wilk Apiary Zip Code Local Honey brand. Each single hive honey is labeled with its neighborhood's zip code, similar to an appellation for wine. He plans to become incorporated and sell at area farmers markets.

When asked if there are any similarities between curling and beekeeping, Tom notes, "everybody looks at you like your crazy when you do either."

To find out more about Tom's beekeeping activities, visit www.facebook.com/wilkapiary

Join Tom and Ardsley Curling Club members for a honey tasting at the Club on Saturday, April 6th at 7:15. Wilk Apiary will offer samples of natural raw honey. All proceeds benefit Ardsley Curling Club.

**Dinner plus tasting is \$20
Honey tasting only is \$10**

To RSVP, visit <http://curlingstuff.com/acchoney>.

Quebec International Bonspiel

Jerry McCarty



(Left to Right) John Cravenho, John Wilson, Jim Gutekunst, Bruce Huffine, Jerry McCarty, Paul Sofuolis.

A NY Caledonian team competed at the 100th anniversary of the Quebec International Bonspiel held in Quebec City from Jan 19 to 26, 2013.

Competition was held at three curling clubs; Jacques Cartier and Victoria (in the city) and Etchemin (across the river) totaling 11 sheets of ice. This year because

of the 84 teams participating, a new ice arena converted 4 additional sheets for curling. Bus transportation was provided for curlers to all club matches.

Accommodations were provided by the Fairmont Château Frontenac Hotel, situated in the heart of Old Québec City, is the nerve center and headquarters for

the Bonspiel's social activities. The Chateau sets aside rooms for curlers at a special, discounted rate as well as most social activities.

This year's team consisted of Jim Gutekunst, Jerry McCarty, Bruce Huffine, Jim Campion, John Cravenho (Westport CT), John Wilson (Broomstones), and Paul Sofoulis (Broomstones).

The team came up against some tough competition and was very successful in participating in all non-curling events of the Bonspiel.

Every year the QIB welcomes teams from across Canada, the United States and Europe. Competition is followed by the start of the famous Quebec Winter Carnival. You may want to plan a stay over and attend the early festivities for the Carnival while taking advantage of the "grandfathered" reduced room rate offered for the bonspiel.

Planning for next year's 101st event is underway so mark your calendar (Jan 25 to Feb 1, 2014). Any club member interested in attending next year should contact any of the above members who can answer any question that you may have.

Caledonian's Defend Well at PCC Stone, and Gemmell Rink Prevails

George Austin

New York Caledonian (Peter Austin – Skip, George Austin, Dan Tufaro, Bill Malgieri) traveled to Plainfield, NJ for the PCC Stone and finished 4-1, winning the 4th event while Dean Gemmell's rink including Bill and Andrew Stopera went on to win. There was a bit of revenge for Dean, as his team last year lost in the finals to Peter Austin.

As defending champs, the Caledonians

lost in the 1st Event Semi-finals to a Plainfield veteran, Linc Heffner.

Twenty teams competed in the 36th running of this favored event from March 7-10. Many New York Caledonian and Ardsley family members were in attendance during the final two rounds to partake in the usual fine Plainfield hospitality. Bill Peskoff of the 2013 Senior Men's champion rink, and his wife Cindy organized.



The Ladies All-American Has Their Winner

Pauline Davies

The Thursday Morning Ladies finished their All American tournament in early March. The winning team was: Diane Muldowney, Nicole Zahour, Lillie Shortridge-Baggett and Laurie Frees. Congratulations to the team and a big thank you to Leeza Furman for subbing.

The ladies will now do 6 six weeks of the Wells Wick tournament, finishing their season on Thurs. April 18th.

Hackley School

Karen Casper

A group of 13 adventurous high school students from Hackley School in Tarrytown found themselves curling at the Ardsley Curling Club for two hours each week in order to satisfy the school's Physical Education requirement for the winter trimester. "Coach" Karen Casper, full time Math teacher at Hackley, transported the group to the club by bus every Thursday for play to take place from 4:00-6:00 PM. This regimen continued for a period of 12

weeks. With the help of "Assistant Coach" Daniel Casper, the students were guided through the basics of the game. In very short order they were ready to enjoy their time on the ice playing games in a friendly atmosphere. Many thanks go out to the club for their support and understanding of this developing program. Our hope is to add another high school group each year until we are able to involve students from each of the River Towns.



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