



# Venerables CoffeeBreak



Spring Edition – April 2009

## President's Message

My time as Venerables President will soon come to a close, and my term as Past President starts in mid-May when Dave Abrams comes in as your 2009/10 President. I was a somewhat reluctant recruit to the Board when Doug Lancefield pitched me in as Treasurer, but my five years on the Board to this point have proven to be a fulfilling and educational journey, made more so by association with the dedicated executive and volunteers that work on your behalf.

I can't help but reflect back on the past season with a great deal of satisfaction, and aside from the fact that it's been a pleasure to serve, I believe that your Board of Directors and volunteers have provided a full and enjoyable season of events benefiting all Venerables.

Hopefully, the changes we made have met with your approval. We instituted a couple of 'bring a guest to curl' days in an effort to attract recruits. Veteran's Appreciation Days have been entrenched in our November calendar as a tradition to assure we can bow our heads as a group to remember their sacrifices. This year the Armstrong Challenge bonspiel was converted to the  
**(continued on page 4)**

## Annual Fun Week games a trio of hits

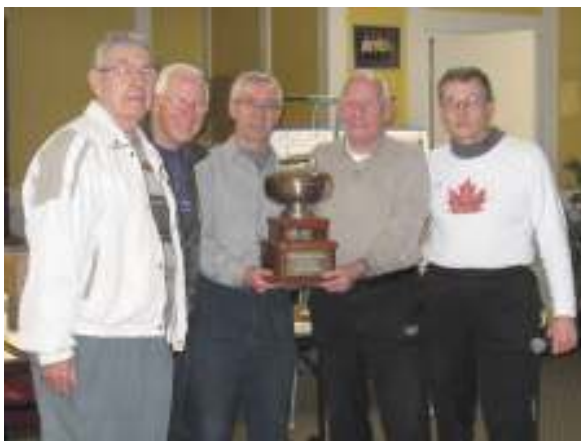
by Gary Norris and Reg Haney

**Day one .... the Skins.** A full complement of curlers took to the ice in the annual Skins Fun Day Bonspiel again this year. Following the completion of three six-end games, the Gord Haney skipped team, with Jim Thomas at Vice, Dan Taylor at Second and Norm Seagrove at Lead, came out victorious with a total of 54 skins.

Finishing in the runner-up position was the team skipped by Terry Beck with 45 skins, and in third place was the team skipped by Bob Griffith with 43 skins. In fourth place was the Ron Wilson skipped team with 42 skins. Following the distribution of prize money the annual hush fell over the lounge as the curlers played the final game of the day, the "one'zies".

For those not familiar with this game it consists of emptying the skins envelopes onto the table into a big pile of quarters and loonies and going - one for you, and one for you, and one for you, and one for you, - and then hoping at the end everyone got the same number of "one's for you".

**(Fun Week continues page 2)**



## Nail biting end to first Armstrong Tournament

by Jim Young and Andrew Lamb

Members will remember the one day three game format of the Armstrong Challenge of prior years. This year after consultation with many members and with the approval of Chris Armstrong, Jim Young introduced a new tournament format.

The new format allowed each division's teams to compete in a three round event. In the first round teams competed against other teams within their group to determine their four top teams. In the second round the top four teams in each division played in a 'page playoff' determining the top two.

In the final round the top two teams of each division competed in a 'Governor General's play down' format. Each week the two teams from each division played the top two teams from another group. The scores of each division's teams were combined to determine the winner.

So the situation on April 27, the final day, was as follows: after the first two games  
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## Wilmot couple tops the field at Venerables final euchre

Submitted by Reg Haney

In what was the largest group to turn out this year, 56 players showed up on the evening of March 4 to close out the euchre for the season. Beth Wilmot had the ladies high score of 65, and husband Dave was the leading man, turning in a card with a total of 59. There was a tie at 58 for second high gent, and Dave Wilmot pulled Gord Haney's card from the hat to settle on the winner. In an amazing display of true grit to reach the podium as low man, Larry Lyon's exceeded expectations to come up with a score of 32.

The lady who took second place on the night was Billie Griffith at 64 points. The most honourable lady was Norma Temple  
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## Stew Wheler Spiel a classic Venerables event

This year's version of the Stew Wheler Classic proved to be just that, a real classic. For the second year the expanded format of an open (formerly masters) section was filled with 16 teams competing for the honour of being named winner of the Stew Wheler Classic. This year's winner was from the Toronto Police Curling League, a first time participant with 135 points. The team was skipped by Bill Goodchild, with John Paterson at vice, Vic Dybenko



at second and Jim Holker at lead.

As first time participants they were thrilled with their victory and vowed to return to defend next year. In the runner up position was a team from Tam Heather skipped by Dave Muir with 126 points, and in third was another Tam Heather team skipped by Ben Petch with 120 points. In fourth, another Tam Heather

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## Fun Week (continued from page 1)

**Day two .... the Stick.** The third annual Sticks Fun Day spiel was a day enjoyed by all curlers participating. Again this year the fun on the ice was met with much laughter as hogged shots were followed with rocks through the wall, to in-turns when out-turn was requested, and of course the reverse also took place with out-turns replacing requested in-turns, and we can't forget those many no-handle shots. This is a day when the non-regular stick curlers get the opportunity to develop a respect for those who have to use the stick regularly

and their ability to execute the guards, the draws, and the takeouts, with great accuracy - it's not as easy as it appears to be. The main thing for the day was everyone had a good time. This year's winning team was skipped by Warren Bonisteel with Vic Thompson as Vice, Phil Luet at Second and Bill Carmichael at Lead.



The runner-up was the team skipped by Carson Klinck, with third place going to the team skipped by Alex Lyons.

In fourth place the team skipped by Bob Abernethy.

(Fun Week continues page 4)

## Armstrong bragging rights are claimed by the Y group

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both W and Y Groups had two wins and no losses; X and Z both had two losses. What a finish to the tournament. Both finals went to the final rock in the eight end.



Chris Armstrong with the Y Group winners

Congratulations and bragging rights go to Y group as the inaugural winners of the new format for the inter-group challenge. Members of the Y group teams were: John Harzenetter, Tom Maikawa, John Messina, Jack McMillan, Cam Cowan, George Roffey, Ian Daniel and Art Corby. Subs were Ron Wilson, Dave Clutton and Dan Taylor.

W group finished second, Z was third.

Jim Young would like to thank all those who took part this year and thank those who filled in the questionnaire on the tournament. Your input will help with future planning of this event. Thanks to the Board Captains for their efforts in accommodating this new format. Jim would also like to thank Gary Norris and John Elstone for their assistance.

**Editors note:**

***We would like to thank Jim Young for his excellent efforts in staging our new Armstrong Tournament.***

## Upcoming Events:

**Monday, June 1 Annual Golf tournament**

**Wednesday, September 30 - AGM**

**Mid October - 2009/10 season begins**

Visit us online at

[www.tamheathervenerables.com](http://www.tamheathervenerables.com)

**Did you get your 2009/10 Membership Application in before April 15<sup>th</sup> to save money?**

**If not, act immediately before the end of April.**

## Stew Wheler Classic features rare 8-ender

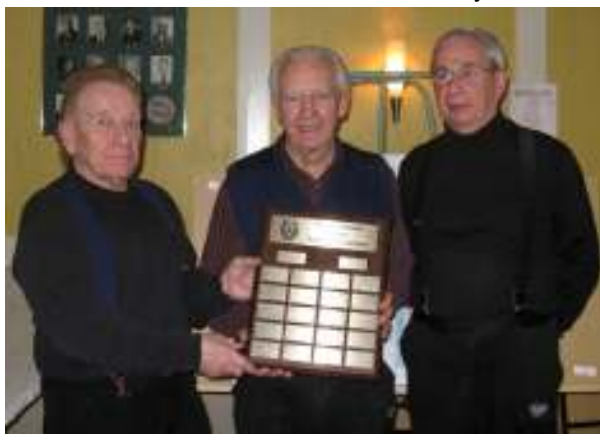
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team skipped by Carson Klinck had 105 points. Helen Wheler, wife of the late Stew Wheler, was in attendance again this year as always and was joined by Sharon McIlmoyle from Ogden Funeral Homes, the bonspiel corporate sponsor. Helen and Sharon made the trophy presentation to Bill Goodchild and his team.

The Grand Masters section (expanded to 16 teams last year) was two teams short of a full entry, but that didn't stop the curlers from being treated to a rare and most coveted event in curling -- the scoring of an eight-ender. The team from Scarborough skipped by Barry Truscott, with vice Percy Baxter, second Dan Shimski, and lead Brian Bell found themselves in this most enviable position. Congratulations to the Scarborough team.

The winners of the Grand Masters section was determined by a tie breaker process, as both Ray Moffitt's team from Tam Heather and Barry Truscott's team from Scarborough finished with 141 points.

The clincher was a points spread over the teams each had played during the bonspiel, and the team from Tam Heather skipped by Ray Moffitt with vice Dennis O'Leary, second Tom Carroll, and lead Dave Wilmot, had a total 124 points to the Scarborough team total differential of 115 points. The runner-up spot thus



fell to the Scarborough team skipped by Barry Truscott. Third place went to the Whitby team skipped by John Bueckert, and fourth was the Tam Heather team skipped by Ron Wilson.

Conditions at the club were once again first class on and off the ice, and the teams enjoyed another great lunch of baked ham by Chef Damiano and his staff. The quiet but ever present Peter Tibando assisted Gary Norris in the running of the bonspiel. Gary thanked all for participating and issued the invitation to all to return again next year once again to do battle for the Stew Wheler trophy.

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## Welcome John Davidson – new hand at the helm

After four and a half years, first in Recruiting and for the last three in Communications, I am stepping away from the Board. Starting mid-May John Davidson will assume the position of Communications Chair. In addition to producing the CoffeeBreak and looking after Goodwill, Communications now includes maintenance of our Website and email communications to the growing 'online' segment of our membership. In addition, we started this year with a 'satisfaction survey' and are concluding it with focus groups from each division.

Please assist John in his new role by submitting write-ups of club events and other member news; advise him of the death of any member or spouse so that these can be communicated to the membership in a timely manner. If you have the time to volunteer to help with Goodwill or the CoffeeBreak, or taking photographs at bonspiels, etc., let John know. Lastly, if you have email and are not receiving our communications, please check we have the right email address for you. It may have been mistyped on the membership record.

I will continue to offer John and the Club all my support. Thank you for your past and continuing assistance. Have a good summer and keep recruiting.

*Andrew Lamb*

## Appointment changes to the 2009/10 Executive and Board of Directors

A slight restructuring of the 2009/10 Board of Directors has taken place. Jim Young, who was scheduled to be Vice President, will now be taking next year away from Board of Director responsibilities after a combined six years of dedicated commitment, both to the Venerables for the last three years, and previous to that, by serving on the Board for the Avonlea Masters.

To cover the VP position we have asked Bob Abernethy, a previous Venerables President, to come in and serve as Acting Vice President. As well, we asked Peter Tibando to shift from Director-at-Large to take on the Facilities position. Peter has been working with Gary Norris on Bonspiels and is familiar with the needs of the job. Fred Huggett is shifting over to assume the role of the Director-at-Large.

Jim Young will continue to oversee 'The Armstrong Tournament' next season as a non-Board member volunteer, and it's our hope that Jim will re-join the Executive in the future, after he gets a well deserved break from Board activities.

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### The 2009-2010 Board structure will be:

President	Dave Abrams
Past President	Reg Haney
Acting Vice President	Bob Abernethy
Treasurer	Tom Stephens
Secretary	Ken Holmeshaw
Membership	Brian Steen
Communications	John Davidson
Facilities	Peter Tibando
Bonspiels	Gary Norris
Director at Large	Fred Huggett

We wish the new board every success in the coming season

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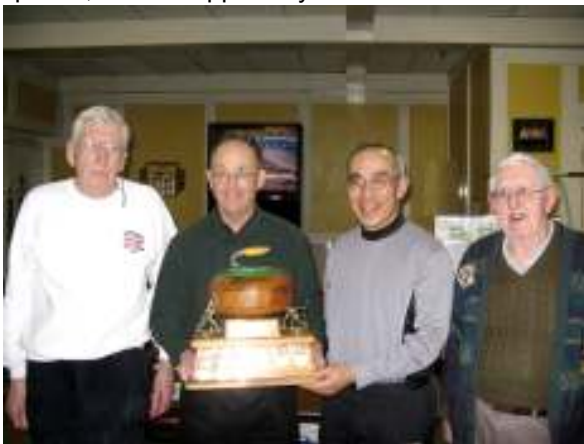
## Summer presents each of us with opportunities to recruit

Whether golfing, lawn bowling, running the bases or trimming the sails, you will have many encounters with new people this summer. You may have new neighbours on your street. Whatever the occasion, don't forget to ask if they, their dads, granddads, uncles, etc, would enjoy curling with Venerables next season. **This is how new members are found. You only have to remember to ask.**

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## Fun Week (continued from page 2)

**Day three .... the Trophy.** This year the previously named one-day Memorial Bonspiel has been replaced and re-named the Trophy Fun Day Bonspiel. *(The Memorial is now given major status and becomes 'The Venerables Memorial Bonspiel', our closing in-house event).* The Trophy is the third of the three fun day bonspiels planned for near year end. The Trophy winning team, scoring 200 points, was skipped by Alf Connor with Tom Maikawa at Vice, Jack Grant at Second, and Phil Luet at Lead. The runner-up with 190 points was skipped by John Harzenetter. In third with 150 points was the team skipped by Bob Griffith, and in fourth with 138 points was the team skipped by Cam Cowan.



This very enjoyable three venue event was organized and handled by Gary Norris with help from the indispensable Peter Tibando throughout, and Tom Stephens on Skins spiel day. Gary told the curlers that the fun week bonspiels had three goals to meet, which he felt were achieved this year. The main aim of course, is to have fun, and all curlers that participated in one or more of the Skins, Sticks or Trophy, certainly had a good time each day. The second purpose was to allow the curlers to participate on teams made up from the mixing of the four groups and to get to meet many curlers that they would not otherwise meet when they curl just within their assigned groups. The third purpose is to allow the curlers to participate in three different formats of Skins, Sticks and normal style curling game. All goals were met. In thanking the curlers for their participation, Gary expressed a hope that they would come out for the fun again next year.

## Presidents Message

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new Armstrong Tournament, serving three needs; to eliminate one bonspiel from the schedule, to provide a season long 'competitive' element for those who wished more competition, and to maintain the intent of determining which group prevails as Club champions, all the while continuing to bear the Armstrong name in honour of Chris, a Venerables Club founder. We moved Fun Week up a bit in the order to create a more important closing event by making our third and last in-house bonspiel, 'The Venerables Memorial Bonspiel', to more universally commemorate the passing of fellow curlers.

Some changes are already in discussion for next season, one of which is the possible expansion of our popular Euchre nights from four to six evenings.

I'm pleased to tell you the Venerables are in a healthy state with an extremely solid working relationship with the main club. You'll not be surprised that I close with a request that you continue to recruit throughout the summer and beyond in order to bring new blood to fortify our membership. Many are under the impression that the main club organizes our venue -- not so, we're a separate organization responsible for our own affairs, finances, and governance, and we are run exclusively by our volunteer members. Please consider helping in a volunteer role.

I look forward to seeing you at our AGM in September. In the meantime, have a safe and healthy summer.

Gentlemen, the pleasure has been mine. *Reg Haney*

## Kirkaldy Sweater tradition appreciated by his family

*This letter was sent to President, Reg Haney*  
Hi Reg,

I received a copy of the Venerables Coffee Break in the mail today. It was sent to me by Frank Sharon. He thought I would like to see the article about the tradition of 'passing the Kirkaldy sweater'. As I had given the sweater to Frank to find a good use for it, I was not aware of the honour it had been given. My daughters and I are very pleased to see that the president of the Venerables is the lucky recipient to wear it. It seemed a shame to put a hand knit sweater (by Diana) in a drop box, and since Jim loved the game of curling, it certainly seemed the right place to send it. Hoping that the tradition continues for many years and many presidents enjoy wearing it.

Sincerely,

*Betty, Diana & Leslie Kirkaldy*

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## Euchre season wrap-up

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scoring 35. A note of hilarity was added to the event with the introduction and presentation of the 'Murphy Lone Hand Trophy' (you have to see it to believe it!) The crowd roared with laughter when Dave Wilmot took the trophy as acknowledgement of his five lone hands.

In a 'highly suspicious' 50/50 draw, Betty Murphy drew her own ticket from the bowl to claim the \$51 prize.

Ron and Betty Murphy have provided four very fun-filled social nights this past year and I'm happy to tell you that they have agreed to volunteer again in the 2009/10 season. Because of the popularity of these games, we will explore the possibility with the Tam management of going to six evenings of euchre next year; this would add games in early December and in April in addition to those we have now in November, January, February and March.

Thanks to all for supporting our Venerables euchre.

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***Do you have anything to contribute to next season's AGM issue of the Venerables CoffeeBreak?***

**Contact John Davidson,  
Andrew Lamb or Reg Haney**

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