

The Granite Connection

KW Granite Club
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Message from the President

We've gone on-line with the Granite Connection for the first time. Hopefully all has gone well with this endeavor however should there be any issues let the office know. Of course by using this mode of communication we will be more efficient from a cost perspective. Printed copies of this newsletter are still available for those of us not computerized – you can pick up a copy at the club.

What a wonderful 3 days we have just experienced with the M&M Meats Skins game. It certainly was great to bring this calibre of curling to Kitchener-Waterloo. Just about everything went like clockwork – curling as expected was outstanding considering the field. From our perspective I believe the club stood the test of time. We had some 2500+ people through the club over the 3 day period – we passed – in fact I give us an A for our performance but I may be a little prejudiced with that rating – not bad for our first attempt in hosting an event.

Many, many thanks for a job well done. This was a team effort – from the steering committee headed by Al Barber, to the various committee chairs through to all the volunteers. Thank you. None of this would have happened without your countless hours and contribution. A “tip of the hat” to all of you – feel very proud of what was accomplished over the 3 days – sell out crowds, putting Waterloo on the map from a curling perspective and all this bodes well for the health of our sport for years to come. And finally to Jim Uhrig – thanks for getting the club in “tip-top shape”. The club sure looked great.

You will see from the report of the Chair of the Skins Steering Committee that the Skins was not only an operational success but also a financial success for our club. I expect we should net conservatively some \$25,000 for our efforts. Paul Savage of Shot Rock, the key to bringing the Skins to our club was very positive as to our efforts and wants to meet with us shortly to talk about future endeavours.

In another issue, the results of our monthly 50/50 draw are announced elsewhere in this newsletter. I understand that approximately 50% of our adult membership are participating – somewhat disappointing. As most know this is a club-wide fundraising initiative and for \$5.00 a month you have the opportunity to assist the club in their fundraising efforts as well as “filling your own pockets” should your name be drawn. In the event you have not signed up please consider doing so – it's not too late – contact the office. Talk to you soon..... Lew

Around the House

- Congratulations to Elaine Voisin , Tara Grey and Amber Gebhardt for qualifying through the zone play downs.
- Congratulations to Bev Houston and Jean Richardson who along with Les Houston and Glenn Pascoe were victorious at the Senior Winter Games held in Ayr December 15th and 16th. The team will go on to compete at Winterfest held in Barrie on February 7th and 8th, 2005.
- Zone Playdowns will be held at the Galt Country Club for the Masters Curling competition. January 17th to January 19th. All best wishes to Wendy Simpson, Ilse Hoffman, Lorna Allen and Glad O'Hara as they seek to defend their provincial title.
- Zone Playdowns at the K-W Granite Club for Colts & Trophy January 21,22,23.

Club Passings

Our sincere sympathies go out to:

- Lew Ayers who lost his brother over the holidays and to
- Bob Purdy, whose wife also passed away recently.
- Bill Ralph whose mother just died



Ladies Curling

December Recap:

Approximately 70 current and former members enjoyed our Christmas social on Tuesday, December 14th. Many thanks to the following people:

- Sylvia Bell for acting as hostess for our guests for 20 years
- Cameron Flowers for once again generously donating poinsettias and figurines won by our members
- M&M Meats for their generous contribution of suares and other sweets as sponsor of one of our fall events
- Barb Ready for her delicious culinary contributions

A gift basket was also raffled off.

Thanks to Jean Price, Marcia Condon, Barb Ready, Sharon Lidstone, Lorraine Gleiser, Bonnie Ladano and Meribeth Anderson for their assistance with ticket sales and refreshments.

The Tartan Event : Sponsor; Janice MacIntosh Conveners; Reta Risto/Enid Mills

Winners – Wendy Simpson, Barb Ready, Dorothy Hinschberger, Wendy DeJonge

Runners-up – Sylvia Bell, Jean Richardson, Bonnie Ladano, Meribeth Anderson

Thanks to our sponsor, conveners and participants for making this event a lot of fun

January Update

Tuesday January 4th – M&M Meats event concludes

Thursday January 6th – Capris Hairstyles Event starts.

Conveners – Sandy Horton/Tami Asselstine

Monday January 10th – Semi-final games for the Tri-County Welding Supplies Club

Championship

N.B Date for the final game in this event to be determined in the new year.

Tuesday January 11th – Sweeping to Victory Event begins

Conveners – Marcia Condon/Virginia Nalasco

Monday January 17th – Tentative date for the beginning of the Doubles Event

Convener - Betty Hill

Sponsor – Barb & John Ready

Sign up deadline – January 10th

Ladies Bridge

We enjoyed the Christmas luncheon bridge very much. Six tables in attendance made for a very lively afternoon. **January 12th** is the date of the opening bridge for the year 2005. Please be sure to make your reservations no later than the Monday before each Wednesday bridge. We want to see you there.

Those leaving for the sunny south are wished a happy and healthy holiday. We look forward to your return in the spring. A happy and prosperous year ahead for all!

Recent Winners:

December 8 Helen Gray 4320



If anyone has any pictures from the M&M Skins game, Tom Rajnovich is trying to put together a scrapbook and would be interested in collecting any pictures you might have. If you can download them to a disc and leave them for Tom at the office or bar he would appreciate it.

Ladies Curling Continued

Monday January 31st – Day Ladies Bonspiel for Area Curling Clubs

Please assist the organizers in making our First Annual Bonspiel a success. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the locker room for those day ladies who wish to contribute a draw prize, food for before and after games, a cash donation and help on the day of the spiel.

A sign up sheet for Granite teams is also posted if more teams are needed to fill the draw.

Questions should be directed to Wendy, Lorna, Barb, Glad or Betty.

Meribeth Anderson

50/50 Winners for December

1st place – Scott Allen \$262.50

2nd place Heinz Brock 157.50

3rd place –Dave Leitch 105.00

If you have not signed up yet to have your chance at winning, you can see Karen in the office or speak to Jim or one of the bar staff next time you are in. Proceeds go to help finish off the renovations.

M&M Meat Shop Skins

I am pleased to report that this 3 day event was very successful not only from a financial point but it showcased the KW Granite Club and The City of Waterloo nationwide. It was a success for a number of reasons:

First: The organization – I was provided with a team of individuals who were committed to the task at hand and devoted many personal hours over the past few months to make the event a huge success. Thanks to the Committee Heads Tom Rajnovich, Connie Morgan, Gord Lemon, Leanne O'Donnell, Bob Ross, Jim Uhrig, Lew Ayers, Mark Fisher, Neil Bailey, Roy Bromiley and Bob MacMillan. Only through their efforts and dedication did the event run so smoothly.

Second: The Volunteers – Such an event could not be successful without the effort of our 80 + individuals who committed their time and efforts particularly during the busy holiday season. You can do all the organizing and planning you want but, in the end, it is the efforts of the volunteers that counts.

Third: The Curlers – We had an outstanding field who lived up to their billing with some unbelievable shot making. Only in a Skins conversation with the team during play.

Four: Our Partners (CCMC format like this could one see this calibre of curling, be that close to the action, and be able to engage in, ShotRock, SportsNet, & M&M Meat) – All parties were excellent to work with and in particular, Paul Savage who provided the necessary guidance based on previous events. SportsNet has responded with glowing comments that KW Granite was the “best” they have worked with in recent events.

And last: Club Management & Staff – Our special thanks to Jim and his staff for the extra hours devoted by them in manning the phones for ticket sales, extra bar and janitorial duties, ice maintenance, ordering supplies, etc, etc, as well as the cleanup after the event including ice preparation for league play on Jan 3rd.

As I said earlier, this event was a huge success being sold out approximately 3 weeks prior to the first game.

Revenue generated from ticket sales, food, bar, raffles, donations, etc exceeded expectations and after all expenses have been paid, we are pleased to report a Net Profit of \$31,912.13 was realized. Net proceeds from the raffle and a percentage of food profit was dedicated to the Little Rock/Junior Curling programmes. In addition, a donation to Crohns & Colitis was made which is the charity of M&M Meat Shops.

To the Committee Heads, the volunteers, and Club Management & Staff, thanks for a job well done and I hope KW Granite will have an opportunity to host this event in the near future.

Al Barber
Chairman

ADD-ON – Without Al Barber this event would not have run so smoothly.

Jim Uhrig



The K-W Granite Club gratefully acknowledges the financial support of The Ontario Trillium Foundation. The Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Ministry of Culture, receives annually \$100 million of government funding generated through Ontario's charity casino initiative.