



VOL. 57, Issue 5

January 2013

*President's message*

Dear Fellow UCC Members:

First and foremost, I hope everyone has a happy holiday season and a healthy new year. The first half of the curling season was a success by all measures. We hosted two invitational bonspiels and one friendly event. Our leagues, in-house bonspiels and corporate events went well. We are not slowing down in 2013, in addition to our league play, in January and February, we are hosting bonspiels every weekend except one. Please consider volunteering to help the bonspiel chairs – they do a terrific job and a little help goes a long way in making their jobs easier.

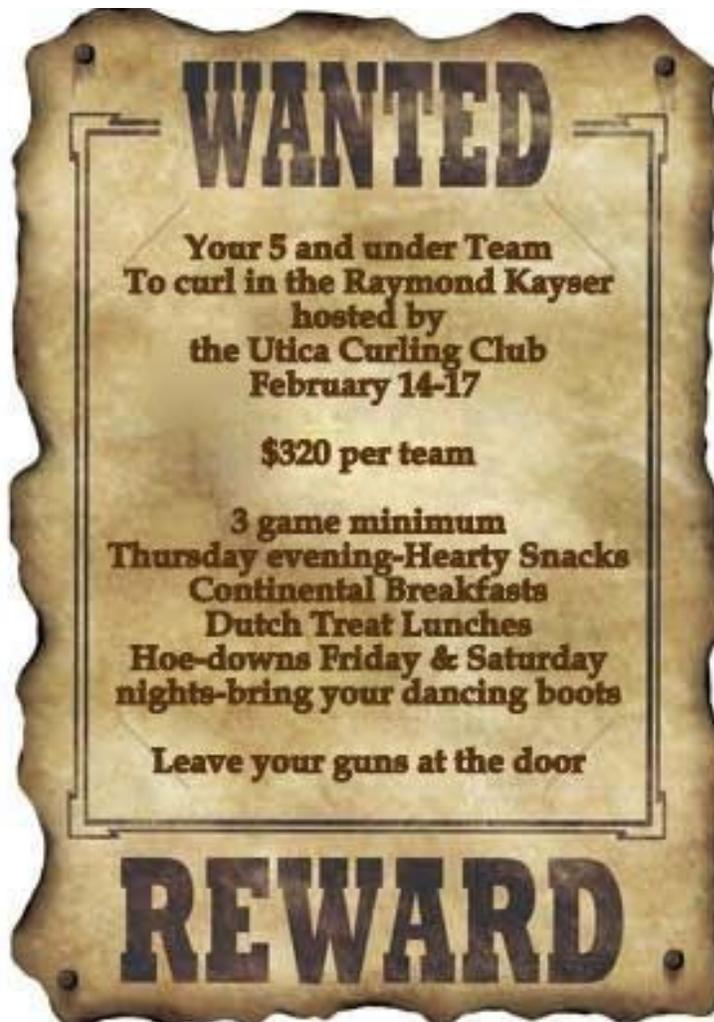
Although it is just the start of 2013, it is not too early to be thinking about the 2014 Olympics and what we can do to promote the sport we love. We often get a bit of bump in membership in an Olympic year but most of the interest comes in February, after coverage of the curling events and very close to the end of our season. I challenge the membership to think about ways to start promoting the sport this winter so that we can capitalize on “Olympic Fever” early next year and recruit new members in October. I would be happy to speak with anyone who has any ideas to help us with our recruitment and retention.

We also hope to help our recruitment efforts by increasing exposure to the sport of curling so we are currently in the process of installing the necessary infrastructure to allow us to stream video via the internet. We hope to have this capability by the time of the Mitchell Bonspiel. If you are interested in helping or have equipment you can donate, please contact Doug Smith.

I look forward to seeing everyone on the ice in the new year.

Good Curling,  
*Julie Chanatry, President*

# **KAYSER COMING to UCC!**



**ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE  
ON THE UCC WEBSITE**

## *Biogenic Dental/Sew What Charity Curling Challenge*

### To Benefit Up to Twelve Area Charities Curling for a Cause

Date: Saturday, March 9, 2013

Time: 10:30 AM - 4 PM

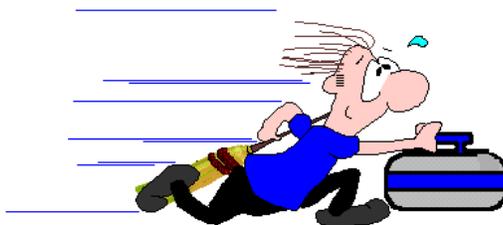
Place: Utica Curling Club  
8300 Clark Mills Road  
Whitesboro, NY

- ◆ *Exciting Fund Raiser*
- ◆ *Fourteenth Annual Event!*
- ◆ *Winter Sport at Its Best*
- ◆ *Spectators Welcome - Bring Signs and Cheer for your Favorite Team*

#### **You're invited to enter a team for the 14th Annual Charity Curling Challenge.**

At least three members of the team must be non-curlers. One person may have one year's experience as a curler, but must play lead position. Any existing curler may coach a team. Teams pick the charity of their choice. **This is a great way to introduce non-curling friends to this fun sport!!!**

Start talking it up at work....at the local pub....at your yoga class!  
This almost ALWAYS oversubscribes, so be ready with your team when the sign-up poster goes up in January!





## **2013 Cobb Bonspiel Silent Auction and Raffle Baskets!!!**

It's time to prepare for the coming of the Cobb Bonspiel 2013...

I would like to ask for your help to make a donation to the Silent Auction and the Raffle Baskets.

Let's bring back the Chocolate Basket... Let's try for 50 pounds of Chocolate this year!!!

Please let me know if you can make a donation... It is with the help from you that makes this part of the Cobb bonspiel a memorable one for our guests and you (our members)!

### ***Needed for Raffle Baskets:***

Baskets, Chocolate (anything and everything), Golf Items, Beer, Wine, etc., your creativity helps us be creative!!

### ***Items for Silent Auction:***

Curling Items; Pictures, Posters, Apparel, Accessories; Furniture; Home Goods, etc.

Thank you,

Bryn Davis

404-1654 – Phone or E-mail – [brynpiersma@yahoo.com](mailto:brynpiersma@yahoo.com)

## ***WELCOME NEW CURLERS!***

Welcome those new to the sport of curling! We are glad you joined us and looking forward to seeing you on the ice.

Jane Aronowsky

Mark Crane

Cindy Davis

Joseph A. Falcone

Kristen Gilot-Dowd

Louise Glasso

Susan Humphreys

Ed Hutchinson

Shirley Hutchinson

Jeffery Lottermoser

Peter Rogers

Erin Rowett

Tim Twomey

Amy White

## ***2012 FRIENDLY EARLY BIRD HUGE SUCCESS***

Thirty-two curlers took part in this year's Friendly Early Bird Bonspiel. The teams were evenly matched with close games being the norm. Even more important, there were eight new members who curled in their first three day bonspiel. First year curler Tim Twomey helped Liz Nolan's Macaroni penquins win the Early Bird trophy and earned his first medal. In addition to Tim, first year curlers Ed & Shirley Hutchinson, Peter Rogers, Sue Humphreys, and Amy White played in the bonspiel and received a big round of applause for their efforts.

Don Knapp's Adele penquins team was the overall winner and took home the Friendly Trophy. His team included Dawn Scherer, Raffaele Ranieri, and Eileen Sunderhaft. Don had to make his last shot in the eighth end in order to secure the victory against the Liz's Macaroni Penquins. The title game was a nail biter throughout the match.

After the Sunday draw and toddy bowl, the curlers and guests were treated to a breakfast brunch prepared by Dominick. As always, Dominick made more than enough food so nobody went home hungry.

One sad note was that Liz Nolan hurt her foot on Thursday night and continued playing to the end of the game. She found out later that she broke a bone in her foot and hopefully will be out for just a few weeks. Although she couldn't curl, she was behind the glass cheering her team on for the remaining games.

Next year the Mixed Events Committee hopes to make an even greater effort to encourage the experienced and first year curlers to get together for the Early Bird Friendly Bonspiel. It is a fun event that helps new curlers get acquainted with the membership and experience more than just league play.

The cost to curl three days including a breakfast brunch was \$20. The price to just curl was \$12 and to enjoy just the brunch was \$10. For our members to meet our new curlers and to have them experience their first bonspiel was priceless.

See you next year.

*Winning team:*

- \* *Don Knapp*
- \* *Dawn Scherer*
- \* *Raffaele Ranieri*
- \* *Eileen Sunderhaft*





## Instructor's Corner

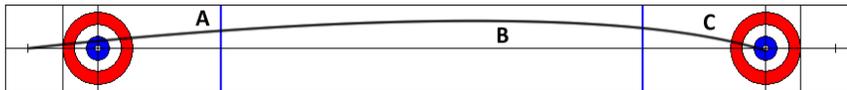
Roger Rowlett & Mary Jane Walsh  
USCA Level II Certified Instructors

*Why is my skip so picky about when I sweep a rock during draw shots?*

*What does it mean to “finish” a rock? Why is my skip always “light”?*  
—F. Ron Tender

This article is all about sweeping, one of the most amusing and misunderstood, but certainly among the most important aspects of curling. Even new curlers know that sweeping makes stones travel farther and straighter. On draw shots and light-weight come-arounds knowing *when* to sweep is perhaps as important as knowing *how much* to sweep. Sweeping at just the right time during shot can make a shot, and sweeping at the wrong time can cause a critical miss.

The path of a properly conditioned curling rock during a draw shot to the pin is shown in the figure below:



Note that the curl path is distinctly asymmetrical. When the rock is first released (“A”) it curls very little, perhaps as much as half-way down the sheet. From the skip’s point of view, the stone will appear to be moving outward toward the edge of the sheet during this phase of the shot. As the stone slows and the rotation comes off, the stone starts to move back toward the center of the sheet (“B”). This is the “break point.” As the rock slows further and rotation decreases, the curvature of the path increases (“C”) and the stone is “moving sideways.”

Sweeping has significantly different effects on a shot, depending on when the stone is swept. Before the break point (“A”), and especially soon after release, sweeping has minimal effect on the overall amount of curl of the shot. Before the break point, the stone is more or less traveling in a straight line, and sweeping will mostly extend the distance of the shot, and delay the break point (“B”) only slightly. This is the best time to sweep a really light rock to get additional distance without having a large effect on total curl. Sweeping near the break point “B” will have the largest effect on total curl of the shot, as it will delay the point at which the stone will start to turn back toward the center line. Just prior to the break point is the optimum time to sweep to keep the rock straight

enough to get by a guard without adding too much extra distance to the shot. Once the stone has made the turn back toward the center line (“C”), sweeping will not be able to “straighten” the rock path, but will only take it farther in the direction of the centerline. If a rock is over-curling, sweeping at point “C” will only take it still farther away from the desired spot and closer to the center line. On the other hand, if a stone is under-curling, sweeping at “C” will extend the travel of the rock back toward the centerline and keep it moving in that sideways direction. This is called “finish”, and sweeping at point “C” is called “finishing the rock.”

An experienced pair of sweepers will sweep light rocks early, right after release (“A”), to get a some extra distance (if needed), then pause at the break point (“B”) to let the rock make the turn, then sweep again at “C” to get the final distance and good “finish” and bury behind guards. Inexperienced sweepers may wait until the rocks slow down before realizing that sweeping is required, and more often than not wind up pounding the ice near the break point (“B”). While the inexperienced sweepers can sweep the rock the proper distance, the result will be a much-delayed break and loss of overall curl. On a draw around a guard, this is the difference between being buried or out in the open; for a come-around tap-back, it’s the difference between a solid tap behind the guard or rolling into the open or even missing the target stone altogether. Inexperienced skips will sweep furiously after the break (“C”) to get around a guard, but alas, this is often too late as the rock is already barreling sideways. Experienced skips anticipate the break point (“B”) and delay the break back toward the guard that must be negotiated.

The prior discussion presumes fast, fairly level ice with reasonable draw. On ice with a significant fall to the outside, such as an edge sheet or perhaps at other clubs, any sweeping in the “fall zone” will cause stone to drift to the outside, especially prior to the break point (“B”). Under these conditions, even sweeping soon after release (“A”) can dangerously affect the total curl of the rock, and must be done judiciously. Playing draws on falling ice puts much more pressure on the shooter to throw accurate weight, because the sweepers may only be able to sweep after the break point to prevent the rock from falling out. Of course, an option is to call tight ice and use the fall to sweep the stone “out” to the desired trajectory prior to the break point, but this is far easier said than done.

So how much should a well-thrown rock be swept? Probably more than you think. “If you want it on the four-foot, throw it to the four-foot” is an oft-heard adage around club curlers, but is probably not a good strategy to make a high percentage of draws when you have able sweepers. It’s

just too hard to throw a stone consistently on changing ice conditions within a 1-2 foot window of error. Maybe that's what they did in the Briar when frosty, 18-second ice ruled, but with good rocks on fast ice a strong pair of sweepers should be able to carry a rock an extra 10 feet or more if necessary. While the shooters get the glory, the sweepers actually make the shots and are in the best position to precisely place rocks exactly where they need to be. A well-thrown rock should probably be swept 50% or more of its length down the ice. If the shooter can throw a rock within +0 and -10 feet of the target, the sweepers should be able to make the shot work. "Light" can be fixed by sweeping; there is no solution for "heavy." So if you have wondered why your skip is always light, it's because they are conditioned to be in that +0 to -10 foot window. On the other hand, if you sweep a rock more than about 80% of its travel, you will probably be unable to avoid altering the intended path, because you are almost certainly going to be sweeping through the break point ("B"). That's probably when the sweepers and the skip or vice-skip are going to have to negotiate a "plan B" shot.

© 2012 Roger Rowlett

*Good curling! Have a question for Instructor's Corner?*

*Have a suggestion for an Instructor's Corner article?*

*Send an email to [curlingschool@uticacurlingclub.org](mailto:curlingschool@uticacurlingclub.org)*



### ***GNCC Senior Women's Championship***

Sixteen teams participated in the 2012 GNCC Senior Women's Championship held in Albany, NY, November 15-18, 2012.

*Congratulations to Joyce Shaffer, Susan Williams, Sue Gardner & Peggy Pratt, winners of the second event. They were presented with The Kayuta Lake Curling Club Trophy, designed and sponsored by GNCC Past-President Carl Thomas. A copper curling stone sits on top of a wooden base made by John Jacon.*

## ***Evening Leagues - Women***

Ladies - Don't forget to sign up for the evening leagues in the second half! The draft will be on Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 (Monday nights) and 3 (Wednesday nights). League play begins January 7<sup>th</sup>. E-mail Audrey with questions and selections at [Audrey.foote@gmail.com](mailto:Audrey.foote@gmail.com).

Please note: If you e-mail me with the night(s) you want to play, I will e-mail you back with a friendly "Thanks!" to let you know I received and entered your choices. If you don't hear back from me within 48ish hours, it's because I didn't get your e-mail. If this happens, try e-mailing me again. Thanks! —*Audrey Foote*

### ***Happenings***

**Robert C. Axelson**, former member of and past President of the Utica Curling Club, died on Nov. 30, 2012.

Long-time curler **John Sherrill Kogut** died unexpectedly on Dec. 12.

Our condolences to the family and friends of both gentlemen.

## ***High School Charity Challenge help needed***

The High School Charity Challenge will take place on January 21, 2013 from 11 am to about 4 pm. I am in need of some volunteers to help out with this event. I need...

- a buddy to run this event with me
- a treasurer
- coaches (the kids are really really really good and fun...you'll enjoy your day!)

If it entices you to help, I will buy you lunch that day!

If you know any high school students that would enjoy this event, spread the word! (Also, they need volunteer hours in order to graduate if they are seniors...this would be a fantastic way to get some...fundraising and curling takes awhile!) If you have any questions, or want me to buy you lunch when you volunteer, let me know by e-mailing me at [Audrey.foote@gmail.com](mailto:Audrey.foote@gmail.com). Thank you!!! —*Audrey Foote*

JANUARY						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Color/Font key:</b> General UCC events Ladies events Men's/Open events Mixed events GWCC events at other clubs <b>GNCC EVENTS</b>		New Year's Day	Ice available for practice	Boerger Happy Hour 4:00	Crawford 5:30&7:30 Fish Fry	Calder-Conley/Hurd
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Calder-Conley/Hurd Finals 11:30		Daytime Curlers League 9:45 (6 ends) Boerger Happy Hour 4:00	Sims 8:00 CABVI curling 3:00-5:00 Glenplaidies 5:45	Calder-Conley/Hurd	Crawford 5:30&7:30 Fish Fry	
ROCKS, Practice 2:15-4:15 Charbonneau Semis 6:00	Lambert Grant 5:45 Tom Garber 8:00	Allen 7:00		Mitchell Bonspiel		Mitchell Bonspiel
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Mitchell Bonspiel Semis 8:30 Finals 11:30 ROCKS, Practice 3:00-5:00 Board Mtg 4:00 Crawford 5:30&7:30	High School Charity Challenge 11:00-4:00 Lambert Grant 5:45 Tom Garber 8:00	Daytime Curlers League 9:45 (8 ends) Allen 7:00	CABVI curling 3:00-5:00 Glenplaidies 5:45 Sims 8:00	Empire State Rochester Boerger Happy Hour 4:00	Empire State Rochester Crawford 5:30&7:30 Fish Fry	Junior Invitational Bonspiel (tentative) Empire State Rochester
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Jr Invitat 9:00-2:00 ROCKS, Practice 2:15-4:15 College 4:15-6:15 Charbonneau Finals 6:30		Daytime Curlers League 9:45 (6 ends) Boerger Happy Hour 4:00 Allen 7:00	CABVI curling 3:00-5:00 Glenplaidies 5:45 Sims 8:00			Mixed Champs
27	28	29	30	31		
Mixed Champs Semis 8:30 Finals 11:30 ROCKS, Practice 2:15-4:15 College 4:15-6:15	Lambert Grant 5:45 Tom Garber 8:00	Daytime Curlers League 9:45 (8 ends) Allen 7:00	CABVI curling 3:00-5:00 Glenplaidies 5:45 Sims 8:00	Mixed Champs	Crawford 5:30&7:30 Fish Fry	
				Boerger Happy Hour 4:00		

Don't forget to check the UCC website  
<http://uticacurlingclub.org>  
 for the latest updates, additions, and March preview!

FEBRUARY						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Ice maintenance ROCKS, Practice 2:15-4:15 College 4:15-6:15 Superbowl Party 6:00-10:00	Lambert Grant 5:45 Tom Garber 8:00	Daytime Curlers League 9:45 (8 ends) Allen 7:00	CABV curling 3:00-5:00 Glensplaidies 5:45 Sims 8:00	Boerger Happy Hour 4:00	Crawford 5:30&7:30 Fish fry	College Bonspiel
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
ROCKS, Practice 2:15-4:15 Board Mtg 4:00 College 4:15-6:15	Lambert Grant 5:45 Tom Garber 8:00	Daytime Curlers League 9:45 (6 ends) Boerger Happy Hour 4:00 Allen 7:00	CABV curling 3:00-5:00 Glensplaidies 5:45 Sims 8:00	KAYSER	KAYSER	KAYSER
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
KAYSER Semis 8:30 Finals 11:30 ROCKS, Practice 2:15-4:15 College 4:15-6:15	Lambert Grant 5:45 Tom Garber 8:00	Daytime Curlers League 9:45 (6 ends) Boerger Happy Hour 4:00 Allen 7:00	CABV curling 3:00-5:00 Glensplaidies 5:45 Sims 8:00	Cobb Bonspiel	Cobb Bonspiel	Cobb Bonspiel
24	25	26	27	28		
Cobb Bonspiel Semis 8:30 Finals 11:30 ROCKS, Practice 2:15-4:15 College 4:15-6:15	Lambert Grant 5:45 Tom Garber 8:00	Daytime Curlers League 9:45 (8 ends) Allen 7:00	CABV curling 3:00-5:00 Glensplaidies 5:45 Sims 8:00	Boerger Happy Hour 4:00 Glensplaidies Challenge 6:00		

Don't forget to check the UCC website  
<http://uticacurlingclub.org>  
for the latest updates, additions, and March preview!