Dear Fellow UCC Members,

I hope the New Year finds you in good health, surrounded by family and friends and cherishing the moments that make your life special. Here’s hoping that some of those special people and special moments have something to do with … CURLING!

Making some New Year’s resolutions? Keep your curling club in your thoughts. As we move into the second half of this season, we’ll need everyone pulling together. Every member counts and every volunteer hour contributed is important. Please consider what talents you have – we need you. If your time is precious, sponsorship or in-kind service donations can also make a big difference (and your donations will be tax-deductible).

One of the most important events for the UCC this season will occur in early March as the Utica Curling Club hosts the USCA’s Club Nationals. Mark your calendars – the dates are March 6-14, 2009. Chairs of the 2009 Club Nationals are Chuck Harter and Colleen Welch, joined by a steering committee of volunteers.

Quite frankly, the club’s ability to finish the year in the black will probably hinge on the financial success of the 2009 Club Nationals. The much-needed revenue will largely need to come from sponsorships, as well as ticket sales. According to Sponsorship Chair, Dean Kelly, “the sky’s the limit” on sponsorships but it will take a dedicated crew helping him reach the goal. If Dean says he needs your help, he’s not kidding – please say “yes”! Of course, hosting an event of this magnitude gives the club another way to attract future members. Membership Chair, Carol Jones, and her committee of volunteers will be working hard to make sure that happens. Significant public relations opportunities occur with every national-level event we’ve ever held in our club and this one is no different. Writing press releases, building and maintaining contact with the media, creating an advertising campaign surrounding the event -- if you are interested in this type of work, we need you desperately.

With an undertaking as large as the Club Nationals will be for the Utica
Curling Club, there are tasks of all kinds to be managed and performed before, during and after the event – yes, truly there is “something for everyone”. Planning is now shifting into high gear and you’ll start seeing more information at the club and in email notices as the next weeks unfold. Talk to Chuck and Colleen now to let them know what you can do to help.

Just a reminder – the club’s ice will be off limits between Christmas and New Year’s to allow the Ice Committee to perform a mid-season flood and multiple scrapes. The Rock Committee will also be taking a look at all the rocks, taking measurements, recording serial numbers and building a database of information. This is a critical work period and the Ice Committee and Rock Committee thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Here’s to a great 2009 at the UCC – full of friends, fun and lots of good curling!

Marj Moore, UCC President

CRAWFORD

It’s hard to believe the first half of the season is coming to an end. It’s time to sign up for the Crawford and continue the friendly competition.

The sign up sheet is on the mixed board. It is filling up quickly so be sure to get your name on the list. You may also e mail your entry to kjl79@juno.com. Make sure you specify which draw time you want and if you have any preference to position. Positions will be accommodated based on availability and order received. The Crawford will be curling on four Sundays due to the busy club schedule. The times on those Sundays are 4:30 and 6:30. **A $10 per person snack fee will be collected the first night.**

Conrad & Knyoca Law  Chairs
Phil & Brenda Citriniti  Co-Chairs

FRIDAY NIGHT FISH FRY

The Curling Club fish fry (and other great dining options) will continue in the second half.

Come and enjoy!
UTICA CURLING CLUB
2009 MIXED CHAMPIONSHIPS
JANUARY 22, 24 & 25
********************************

4 game guarantee – 6 events
Thursday evening – 2 draws
Saturday – 5 draws
Sunday semi’s and finals

Snacks after draws
Thursday evening hors d’ouvres
Saturday morning continental breakfast
Saturday Dutch treat lunch
Sunday continental breakfast & Moose Milk

SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET
Choice of Filet Mignon or Snapper Caprice
CUSTOMARY 48-HOUR CANCELLATION POLICY

Wolfman Matt will be our DJ spinning all our favorites for dancing & listening

STEMWARE AWARDS TO THE WINNERS OF THE 1st FOUR EVENTS
AUTOMATIC INVITATION TO THE COBB BONSPIEL
FOR THE FOUR WINNERS AND THE A-EVENT RUNNER-UP
PLUS ONE LOTTERY-PICKED WILDCARD TEAM

SIGN UP YOUR TEAM TODAY

(1) Sign-up sheet on Mixed Bulletin Board or
(2) E-mail to fredpam@twcn.y.rr.com or
(3) Mail to Fred Hicks 5958 Central Corners Rd., Vernon Center, NY 13477

Curling - $21 per player  Dinner - $20

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SINGLES, COUPLES AND SUBS ENCOURAGED
WE WILL DO ALL WE CAN TO PLACE EVERYONE ON A TEAM

Fred & Pam, Hal & Linda, John & Peggy, Joel & Dawn - Chairs
In March 2009, the Utica Curling Club will be hosting 20 teams from throughout the country for the USCA Club Nationals. It will take place from Saturday, March 7th and will run until the finals on Saturday, March 14th. It is to include 10 men’s and 10 women’s teams. Volunteers are needed for all different functions from program development, ticket sales, sponsorships, banquet preparations, club decorations, and many other tasks that are necessary to make this a great event for our club.

Sign up to be a host or hostess for one of the incoming teams. A great chance to mingle with curlers from across the country!

The week will include an opening ceremony on Saturday evening and games will take place each day throughout the week with semifinals on Friday, March 13th. Come and support the event and our club by volunteering. A sign up board will be at the club for the various volunteer opportunities.

Let’s make this competition a memorable event for our club and fellow curlers! To accomplish that, we need your help! Be looking for the sign up sheet or contact Colleen or Chuck and ask how you might help!!

Colleen Welch and Chuck Harter: Co-Chairs

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**GLENGARRY NEWS**

Mark your calendar!

It’s never too early to think about the Glengarry Challenge – scheduled for March 18, 19 and 21st. All resident and 1st year curlers are eligible to participate in this event that determines the Women’s Club Champion! More information on this event will be posted in the ladies locker room.

Chairs – Cindy Brown, Kathy Palazzoli, Barb Felice, Meredith Roefaro
Welcome back Glengarries from Kathy P. (newest Glengarry President).

This is a slightly belated welcome to the UCC women curlers for the 2008-09 curling season from the Glengarry Board. This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Glengarries of the UCC. In many ways, we have a very challenging year ahead of us.

As a member of the Glengarry board, I have the honor and privilege of working with all the UCC members to increase curling participation, support women’s curling, and grow the sport of curling locally, regionally and nationally.

Our Glengarry members have many opportunities to play in women’s and mixed events in the UCC and throughout the GNCC and USCA. Let’s all work hard to represent the UCC well by always being the friendliest, most courteous, fairest and most competitive curlers on and off the ice. Wear our UCC emblems proudly and never fail to show appreciation to the fine hosts of the events we attend. And, when we host a women’s event at the UCC, we should set the bar high and then do even better.

Good curling.

Also, I’d like to take a few moments of your time to write about the loss of a very important member of the Glengarries, the UCC, the GNCC and a dear personal friend, Ellen Boerger.

We are so very fortunate that we took the opportunity to honor Ellen’s hard work and dedication to the sport of curling at the UCC 2008 closing party. Typically, she was very humble and appreciative of the recognition, crediting all of us and especially Ed for her many accomplishments. Her leadership and spirit were instrumental in the successful projects sponsored by the Glengarries which did so much to support the growth and prosperity of the UCC on Francis St. and here at the new club. She was a tireless leader, a willing volunteer, both a fair and fierce competitor on the ice and gracious in victory or defeat.

On a personal note, she and Ed sponsored my parents to be members of the UCC in 1958.

Jim and Marie King were new to the area and Ellen and Ed made them part of a very unique and wonderful community at the UCC. Ellen will be missed.

Editor’s note: apologies to Kathy for missing the December issue
UPCOMING BONSPIELS

1. The Dykes is coming to Utica. The well-known Francis Dykes GNCC 5-year and under Men’s Championship bonspiel will be held at the UCC on Feb. 12-15, 2009.
   The chairpeople are:
   Tom Platt Sr.
   Tom Platt Jr.
   Mike Platt
   They also are ¾ of the last Utica team to win this championship, with Mike skipping the rink.
   Applications will be available shortly on the GNCC website as well as the UCC men’s bulletin board.
   Start putting your teams together or contact the Platts’ if you want to play but don’t have a complete team yet.

2. The GNCC Women’s 5-year and under Championship bonspiel will be held March 12-15, 2009 at the Ardsley Curling Club. Applications will be available on the GNCC website as well as the UCC women’s bulletin board. Please contact the Glengarry board if you need help setting up a team as we strongly encourage all eligible curlers to compete. This event is great fun and should be well attended so sign up soon.

3. The GNCC Raymond Kayser 5-year and under Mixed Championship bonspiel will be held Feb. 26-Mar.1, 2009 at the Rochester Curling Club. Applications will be available on the GNCC website and the UCC Mixed bulletin board. Again, we encourage individuals without a team to sign up, too and we will make the effort to build more teams for this very competitive and fun event.

4. The Rochester-Utica Friendly Open bonspiel is scheduled for Jan. 31, 2009 in Rochester. This is an insanely competitive event with long tradition. The winners hoist the Tankard, the losers get the Monkey. Sign up sheet will be on the UCC mixed bulletin board. The first 32 curlers signed up get the best seats on the motor coach!

*Chaired by veteran and new members of the Mixed Committee, depending on sobriety.*
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Teens/L.R.W Chr 2:00  
Super Bowl Party  
College 4:00 |          | Lambert Grant 5:45  
Tom Garber 8:00 |          | MVILR Curling 10:00-12:00  
Glenpladdies 5:45  
Sims 8:00 |          | Scrape 1:00  
Happy Hour 4:00 |          |          |          |          |
| 2      |          |          | Lambert Grant 5:45  
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Fish Fry  
Jr. Inisl  
Bonspiel |          |          |          |          |
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Board meeting 4:00  
College 4:00 |          | Lambert Grant 5:45  
Tom Garber 8:00 |          | MVILR Curling 10:00-12:00  
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| 15     | Scrapse 8:00  
Dykes men <5yrs  
Curlogram deadline  
Teens/L.R.W Chr 9:30  
College 2:30  
Crawford 4:30, 6:30 |          | Lambert Grant 5:45  
Tom Garber 8:00 |          | MVILR Curling 10:00-12:00  
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| 22     | Scrapse 7:00  
Cobb Finals  
Teens/L.R.W Chr 2:30  
College 2:30  
Crawford 4:30, 6:30 |          | Lambert Grant 5:45  
Tom Garber 8:00 |          | MVILR Curling 10:00-12:00  
Glenpladdies 5:45  
Sims 8:00 |          | Scrape 8:00  
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Note: Events in **bold** indicate specific focus. Other club events are shown in **ITALICS**. **USCA & GNCC events at our club** are shown in **BOLD**.
JUNIORS NEWS

Utica Juniors won the second event at the Broomstones Junior Spiel. There were 24 teams competing from clubs far and wide - Potomac, Philadelphia, Plainfield, and two college teams as well. The team was Ian Clark (skip), Erika Bareiss (vice), Mike Przybyla (second), and Kayla Martin (lead). The only game they lost was to the first event winners. One game was mentioned as a weekend highlight when they had to steal two to tie and then steal one to win in an extra end, which they did. Congratulations!

2008-2009 DIRECTORY now available!

Be sure to pick up your copy of the Utica Curling Club Directory for the 2008-09 curling season next time you’re at the club. Copies not picked up will be mailed, but since this is an additional expense for the club the fewer we have to mail the better!

Directory updates & corrections
Perez, Agusto (Goose): new email address
    augustogooseperez@gmail.com
Libby, Danell: new address
    382 Maple Hill Rd., Canajoharie, NY 13317-3624

IS THE ROCK IN PLAY?

A rock must be completely over the hog line to be in play. If a rock crosses the hog line, but as it comes to rest spins such that it is touching the hog line, it is “out of play”.

Exception: If a rock hits another rock that was completely over the hog line, but the delivered rock is not completely over the hog line, the delivered rock is “in play”.

A rock must be completely over the back line to be out of play. If a rock crosses the back line, but as it comes to rest spins such that it is touching the back line, it is “in play”.

A rock must not touch the side lines or side boards to be in play. If a rock touches the side line, but as it comes to rest spins such that it is completely in the playing surface, it is “out of play”.
**CHARITY CHALLENGE**

It’s not too late to sign up a team for this year’s Charity Challenge, January 17th, 2009! Sign up board is at the club. Visit our web site for information and charity contribution forms.

Any questions, call Carol Jones: 624-3801

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**Welcome New Curlers for the Second Half!**

Welcome Dennis Hooks to the club! Dennis won a first half membership in the Rotary Silent Auction. Thank you Dennis, both your charity and our club win!

Also, welcome Jim Rishel and Charlie Schatz….we’re sorry you were left out of last month’s curlogram, but now you get special attention!

---

**NEEDED!!**

*Volunteer to polish two (2) Trophies in the trophy case*

**SOMETIME IN JANUARY!!!!**

Now that our Club is sparkling

Let’s make our trophy case Sparkle too!!!!!

Sign up in the ladies locker room

See Joyce for details!!!!!

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*GO TO  http://uticacurlingclub.org/*

for all the latest UCC news, league standings, upcoming events

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Dear Ms. Manners,

I’m a new curler and I wish to play in some of the upcoming activities; but I don’t know if my abilities are acceptable. I’m afraid to sign up and no one asks me to join them.

Feeling Left Out

Dear Lefty,

This is an age old problem that goes back to the caveman!

First, new curlers have to fluff their feathers and let the world know you want to curl. That means signing up the minute a bonspiel or league poster goes on the board, introduce yourself and be involved. We were all beginners at one point, and we know everyone has different abilities. There are a number of people in the club at your same skill level, you’re in great company! The important thing is to sign up and have fun — you’ll get better with more play time.

And remember, the great thing about curling is it’s a true team sport. Others on your team help your shots become successful through sweeping and proper ice calls for your delivery weight and abilities. Skips, play your players and help them be successful by calling shots appropriate for their skill level. Second, every experienced curler needs to include new curlers on their teams throughout the year. They need to be willing to teach and help the inexperienced curler. Make it your business to meet new curlers and socialize.

Lefty, you need to realize some curlers have special teams they want to play with for certain events and that’s okay. Love the game and you will also have that special team. Showing you want to curl well by asking for advice on how to improve your game and practicing will not only boost your confidence but show others your interest.

Ms. Manners
1974-75: Boom Years at the Utica Curling Club

In 1975, disco was starting to change the club and music scene, Laverne and Shirley were in their first season on TV, joining other favorites like Welcome Back, Kotter and M*A*S*H. Polyester leisure suits ruled in men’s fashion while hot pants and tube tops were worn by women who let it “all hang out” along with…well, ahem,… those who really shouldn’t have. And, “wearing of the plaid” might have meant a traditional Scottish tartan to some, but the phrase could’ve just as likely been in reference to a fashionable pair of men’s pants of that era!

Most of the people who were members thirty five years ago are no longer curling, unfortunately. And, it’s a fair bet that many of the current 2008-09 UCC members had never even heard about the roaring game, let alone tried it, and certainly some of our younger current members weren’t even a twinkle yet! How our demographics and expectations have changed…

Here are some of the 1974-75 curling season highlights, along with some other interesting tidbits from the club’s historical files, including old Curlograms:

- Eric Haase served as the UCC President. The UCC was located on Francis Street in the city of Utica.
- The club had 5 sheets of ice. The ice became “dirty” in those days with cigarette ashes falling from smoldering cigarettes puffed in between shots. Dirty boots (shoes) apparently were also a frequent problem as the Curlogram admonishes (more than once) that people need to be aware of their footwear’s cleanliness.
- Dr. Robert Burchesky was the club historian. In nearly every Curlogram, some mention was made of a donation to the historical files by one or more individuals. Bob and his wife, Anne, were also chairs of the 1975 Rose Bonspiel. In addition, that same year, Anne’s team earned the right to represent Utica at the USWCA’s National Bonspiel in Chicago. (Editor’s Note: Our sympathy is extended to the Burchesky family on Bob’s recent passing, along with our gratitude for his dedication to curling and UCC history through the years.)
• The Teenage Curlers and their families curled together in two very successful “Family Nights”, one in December and one in March. There was a potluck smorgasbord supper following what was apparently plenty of keen competition on the ice. Teens who were sons or daughters of regular members paid only $10 for their annual membership dues.
• The Calder-Conley-Hurd was played Nov. 8-10th. The CCH was a spiel intended especially for new and prospective curlers and their sponsors. Forty (40) teams, with a record fifty six (56) newbies, play in the event in 1974. That’s a lot of new curlers to teach all at once – imagine!
• One hundred twenty (120) people signed up to play in the 1974 Turkey Spiel. Extra draws were added to accommodate the “overwhelming” interest.
• Sixty five (65) new curlers were accepted for membership. Among these were: John and Kathy Davis, Bob and Diane Caine, Gary and Donna Evans, Dick and Robbie Trosset – all still involved with the UCC in some fashion today. (Editor’s Note: In December 1975, the UCC BoD closed the membership of the UCC to any further additions – what a nice “problem” to have, huh? But, apparently one year later the board lifted this moratorium on membership and active recruitment started again.)
• Multi-day curling instruction was offered for advanced, beginner and teenage curlers of the UCC in early December 1974. The club charged $25 for adults and $12 for teens. The instructional clinic was called “The Silver Broom Curling School”.
• Thirty six (36) rinks played down to represent the UCC in the Mixed Bonspiel.
• Art Cobb of the UCC was selected to head the committee coordinating the first National Mixed Bonspiel – an historic first for curling in the U.S. The event took place in February 1975 in Chicago.
A team of two sets of UCC brothers earned the right to represent the Grand National at the US Men’s Junior Championships in Madison, Wisconsin in 1975. The team: Frank Giovannone, skip; Chris Boerger, third; Dan Boerger, second; and Paul Giovannone, lead. They finished third in the country and apparently made the UCC very proud according to all accounts.
Happy Holidays

Good Curling
In 2009