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March 2009

Greetings Fellow Curlers,

Weather-wise, March may come in like a lion and go out like a lamb (we hope, anyway). But, like the hardy Central NY curlers we are, we won't care what the weather will be, 'cause the curling action will stay HOT at the Utica Curling Club all month long!

The USCA Men's and Women's Club Nationals will be at our club from March 8-14. Plan to take in the action as a spectator, or better yet, serve as a volunteer and get into the event for free. All volunteers, in any capacity, will have unlimited entry all week long. Sponsors are still needed. Did you know that for only \$10 you can be listed as a Friend in the event booklet? Know any business who'd like to be a sponsor? Contact Chuck Harter ASAP. It's not too late.

The Women's Club Championships take place March 18, 19, 21 and 22. The committee is planning a not-to-be-missed banquet with fantastic food and wine-pairings. Get a team together and sign up today – it's a guaranteed good time both on and off the ice.

The Utica Curling Club wraps up the month of March with the traditional Rose Bonspiel on March 26, 27, 28. This bonspiel is never meek and mild like a lamb, in fact, it's always a roaring, lion-like, all-around good time. Help say goodbye to the end of winter and the close of the curling season – mark your calendar now!

If, like me, you are a club member who played in the GNCC's Five Year and Under events during your years of eligibility, you know how special these curling experiences are. As I write this, the GNCC's Francis Dykes Bonspiel (for men with five years or less curling experience) has just ended. Many, many thanks to Tom Platt Jr., Mike Platt and Tom Platt Sr. for running a great event. Congratulations to the Utica team of Jason Brien (skip), Alex Ryan, Jason Golubski and Craig De-Castro, the new Dykes champs. Five Year and Under Mixed teams will soon be headed to Rochester for the Raymond Kayser Bonspiel.

Women's Challenge teams with five years or less experience will be headed to Ardsley for their event in the coming month, too. Be sure to wish both the Mixed and Women's teams "good luck" as they get ready to hit the road!

Speaking of getting ready, the Schedule Committee will be tackling the first draft of our 2009-2010 club calendar in the month of April. Some events are already starting to shape up and the 2009-2010 season looks extra exciting! Check out the information posted at the club regarding the HOT SHOTS camp, to be held for the first time in Utica in October. If you are interested in attending, register *as soon as possible* as HOT SHOTS registration is limited. Registrations have already begun to come in, so don't get locked out of this premier training camp. The 2010 Empire State comes to Utica in January, chaired by Joyce Shaffer, who will be encouraging everyone to "Think Pink" for Breast Cancer Awareness. Next year the UCC also hosts the GNCC Five Year and Under Women's Challenge. Plans are still pretty secretive, but I hear the Camp Counselors from Camp Wannacurl are coming back to the UCC – could it be true???? (Our club manager, Terry, is already steeling himself and frantically checking his stock of wine and martini-makings as he recalls the last time the women campers arrived for a weekend at Camp Wannacurl...) And, last but not least, remember that the 2010 Winter Olympics gives the UCC and all curling clubs a unique springboard for attracting potential new members to the sport of curling. With the help of the GNCC, our club will be conducting an all-out recruitment campaign, so stay tuned as those plans unfold over the summer and into the beginning of the next season.

Over the past few years, the club's Junior Curling Program has been expertly co-chaired by Clare Bariess and Charlie Marsland. Unfortunately, Clare and Charlie have given notice that they will not be returning as chairs of the Junior Curling Program next year. It is with great appreciation and more than a touch of reluctance that I accepted their resignation, which will be effective at the end of this season. Our Junior Program desperately needs leaders if it is to continue. Please consider whether or not you'd be interested in taking on this important work within the club. If you'd like more information, talk to either Clare or Charlie. You may or may not have heard, but the UCC has been asked to host the 2009 GNCC Junior Playdowns (Dec. 27-30, 2009). The UCC Board of Directors will NOT commit the club to hosting the GNCC Junior Playdowns without a confirmed chair. The person(s) who chair the Junior Program would be a natural fit to also chair the playdowns, but that is not a given assumption. If you have an interest in chairing the Jr. program and/or the GNCC Jr. Playdowns in December, please see me before the end of the curling season.

On a sad note, our entire membership mourns the recent passing of a great friend of the Utica Curling Club, Elisabeth (Calder) Childs of the

Norfolk Curling Club. Elisabeth learned to curl in Utica and loved the game of curling. Any Utica curler who visited the Norfolk Club through the years was welcomed with Elisabeth's warm hospitality. Please take a minute to read about Elisabeth and her contributions to curling. Thanks to club historian, Karen Rogowski, for preparing this special feature piece about Elisabeth.

As the season winds down, please join me in saying farewell to the outgoing members of the UCC's Board of Directors. Ending their three year commitment to the BoD are Dean Kelly and Joe Gaebel. Both have served the club with enthusiasm and dedication. Serving on the BoD is an honor but also an important responsibility as directors are looked to for leadership within the club. Each director is a voting member of the Utica Curling Club BoD and thus helps shape UCC policy. The Nominating Committee has begun looking for good candidates to nominate for consideration by the membership at the upcoming Annual Meeting. Dan Bariess is this year's Nominating Committee chair. Other members of the committee are Anne Stuhlman, Brian Moore and Jim Nagy. Interested? See them or one of the current board members for more information.

In closing, may all your curling shots be blessed with the luck of the Irish during this month of March (and may I hopefully not be playing against you when that happens!!)

See you on the ice,

Marj Moore  
UCC President

Check out the Utica Curling Club website

***Uticacurlingclub.org***



For all the latest information on events, bonspiels, league standings, rules, ***and more!***

## **IS ANYBODY READY FOR GOLF YET????**

The UCC Golf Committee is gearing up again for our annual summer golf tournament. A date has not been finalized yet; however, we are targeting June. Last year's inaugural event at Pine Hills was a great success and lots of fun with 31 teams participating. We were energized by the strong turnout of golfers and strongly feel we can attract a full field of 36 teams for 2009.

As we begin our planning for the 2009 event, we want to remind everyone that while we still have some curling left to do and know this event is months away, the work necessary to organize a successful event begins now. We would like you to start thinking of ways to help us grow our tournament.

A major reason for our success in 2008 was not only the participation of the golfers and great efforts of our volunteers but also the significant contributions of our sponsors and donors whose generosity allowed the UCC to generate additional unexpected revenue for the club.

Do you often frequent an area restaurant or business that might be willing to be a sponsor or donate the equivalent of a \$10 gift? Gift certificates, bottle of wine/liquor, golf apparel/equipment or anything else you can think of that makes a nice gift is greatly appreciated. Don't be shy, just ask! Many hands make light work! Please forward all donations to Barb Felice.

In addition we are constantly asking for feedback on last year's tournament. If there is something that you would like to see changed or added, bring it up to a committee member and we'll consider making a change. Feedback from last year's event led to changes for 2009, including: allowing senior men (age limit to be determined) to tee off from the senior tees, possibly adding a senior open division (provided there are enough teams), and adding a "closest to the line" contest as an additional opportunity to win a prize. Please let us know of any other suggestions that you might have to improve the tournament....and no, we can't do anything about your golf swing!!!

Sponsorship opportunities are as follows:

Diamond Sponsorship: \$500

Hole Sponsor sign, full-page golf program ad, scoreboard advertisement throughout the 2009 – 2010 curling season, full-page curling roster book ad, \$25 off one team entry, and your choice of a three-hour corporate curling outing for up to 20 people (a \$300 value) or two fall curling memberships (\$250 value).

Gold Sponsorship: \$300

Hole Sponsor sign, full-page golf program ad, \$25 off one team entry, and your choice of a three-hour corporate curling outing for up to 20 people (a \$300 value) or two fall curling memberships (\$250 value).

Silver Sponsorship: \$150

Hole Sponsor sign, half-page golf program ad, \$25 off one team entry, and your choice of a three-hour corporate curling outing for up to 10 people (a \$150 value) or one fall curling membership (\$125 value).

Bronze Sponsorship: \$75

Hole Sponsor sign, listing in the golf program, \$25 off a team entry.

Prize Donor (any gift of approximately \$10 in value)

Listing in the golf program

Team Entry: Price to be determined

The Committee has drafted a letter to mail to potential sponsors. All we ask of our members is to provide a name and address of a potential sponsor to our Sponsorship Committee (Attn: Joyce Shaffer at joyceshaffer@roadrunner.com) and they will take care of the rest. If you prefer, we can send you a template letter and you can either send or deliver the letter in person. As a reminder, we are a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization so all donations are tax deductible.

More details will follow in the next curlogram. If you have any questions or comments, please **contact any member of the Golf Committee: Tom Thorngren, Anne Stuhlman, Barb Felice, Don Knapp, Jim Schafer, Conrad/Knyoca Law or Phil/Brenda Citriniti.**



***Dear Ms. Manners,***

I've been curling a few years now and always get picked as the lead for any team I'm on. Many people tell me that's a position of honor and important to the team, but I just don't know. Isn't the first one up the last in skill level?

*Signed, Leader of the Pack*

Dear Leader;

Curling, as in many team sports, requires different skill sets for the various positions played. To name only a few, leads must have a finesse for the guard shot and an awesome broom arm. Seconds require excellent line of delivery and drive for take outs. The third requires a strong arsenal of varied shot-making abilities and the skip must have a tactical mind and calmness under fire. Teams are put together with consideration of the "best people for the job".

Consider the curling team like the head of a human being. Would the head function better if it were all eyes rather than eye, ears, nose and mouth? Is the ear of less value than the eye not deserving of a place on the head? The ear has a different function than the eye. Do not ask the eye to play the part of the ear for it will fail. All parts have value and cannot be compared to each other. You are a valuable lead, so do not play down the importance of your role. Skips may try that position and fail miserably at it. (This is very true--have you seen how most skips sweep?) Be the leader of your team! Play your position well, outplay your opponent's lead, and if everyone on your team plays with that philosophy you will be a winning team!



### ***US Women's Curling Association news***

Peggy Rotton attended the Annual meeting of the United States Women's Association in Wauwatosa, WI from 2/9 - 12. She attended rules meeting, Representatives meetings prior to the full Board of Directors meeting. Among items discussed and voted on were rules of All American and Senior and National Bonspiels, a discussion and vote of a new logo, and new updating of the web site. A proposed budget was passed. The chick pin will be reissued to use as a fund raiser fo assist Jr. curlers to attend Jr. events. Dates for bonspiels were noted. Next year the National USWCA bonspiel will be held in Schenectedy in Feb. The Senior Bonspiel in Grand Forks, ND ( over 55) Dec 2 - 6.

Jennifer Stannard , Nutmeg Curling Club was elected President, Jill Owens is secretary from the same club. 1st VP is Nancy Seitz, Cleveland Skating Club and 2nd VP is Maureen Guay from St. Paul,MN. Jean Vorachek from Grand Forks,MN is Treasurer.

*submitted by Peggy S. Rotton  
USWCA Representative*

### ***Glengarries Attend Empire State Bonspiel***

Four Utica teams participated in this year's Empire State Bonspiel hosted by the Rochester CC. It was a great weekend of curling and renewing old friendships.

*A Event runner-up:* Anne Stuhlman, Barb Felice, Kathy Palazzoli, Sue Williams

*2<sup>nd</sup> Event winner, Hurd Trophy:* Diane Higgins, Judi Giovionne, Chris Gleason, Erin Clark

*2<sup>nd</sup> Event runner-up:* Julie Chanatry, Lisa Magnerelli, Sue Gardner, Peg Pratt

*4<sup>th</sup> Event runner-up:* Michelle MacEnroe, Laura Jacon, Ylva Cortright, Liz Nolan

Utica Curling Club will host next year's Empire State Bonspiel. Event chair is Joyce Shaffer.

## March 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Scrape 7:00 <b>Kayser</b> Teens LR/W'Chr 2:00 College 6:00	2 Lambert Grant 5:45 Tom Garber 8:00	3 Women's 10:00 Scrape 1:00 Rink 5:45 Allen 8:00	4 Glenspladdies 5:45 Sims 8:00 <b>Flood after Sims</b>	5 Nat'l Club Championships Ice & Veg.	6 Nat'l Club Championships Ice & Veg.	7 Nat'l Club Championships
8 Nat'l Club Championships Board meeting 4:00	9 Nat'l Club Championships	10 Nat'l Club Championships	11 Nat'l Club Championships	12 Nat'l Club Championships <b>Women's Challenge</b> (Friday)	13 <b>Women's Challenge</b> Nat'l Club Championships	14 <b>Women's Challenge</b> Nat'l Club Championships
15 Scrape 8:00 <b>Women's Challenge</b> Curling deadline Teens LR/W'Chr 2:00 College 2:00 Crawford 4:30, 6:30	16 Lambert Grant 5:45 Tom Garber 8:00	17 Women's 10:00 Scrape 1:00 Rink 5:45 Allen 8:00	18 Women's Club Championships 5:45 Sims 8:00	19 Scrape 1:00 GNCC Sr. Mixed <b>Gordon Jnr 1 (Mont)</b> Happy Hour 4:00 Women's Club Championships 6:00	20 GNCC Sr. Mixed <b>Gordon Jnr 1</b> Anchor QEA, LLC 8:30-10:00 Crawford finals	21 Scrape 8:00 GNCC Sr. Mixed <b>Gordon Jnr 1</b> Women's Club Championships
22 Women's Club Championship Finals Teens LR/W'Chr 2:30 College 6:00	23 Lambert Grant 5:45 Tom Garber 8:00	24 Women's 10:00 Scrape 1:00 Rink 5:45 Allen 8:00	25 Glenspladdies 5:45 Sims 8:00	26 Scrape 1:00 Rose Bonspiel - 5:45 & 8:00	27 Rose Bonspiel - 5:45 & 8:00 Fish Fry	28 Rose Bonspiel Closing Party 6:30 (Skating & compressors off)
29	30	31	April 1 Annual Meeting	April 2	April 3	GNCC events at <a href="http://www.gncc.org">www.gncc.org</a> <a href="http://www.gncc.org/shows/information">www.gncc.org/shows/information</a> USCA & GNCC events at our club shown in <b>Bold</b>



**Don't be left out of this year's.....  
2009 GLENGARRY  
CHALLENGE  
MARCH 18, 19 and 21**

Did you play in the 5-and-under Women's Challenge, have a group of friends that you have always wanted to curl with? Don't have a team, but really want to play? Here is a great way to conclude the curling season -- by participating in this year's Glengarry Challenge.

What is the Glengarry Challenge? It's our Women's in-house bonspiel, held annually to play for the Glengarry trophy and pin. The winning team of this competition will be the Glengarry Club Champion.

Curling will take place on Wednesday & Thursday March 18 and 19 (draw times to be determined), continue with games and finals on Saturday, and conclude with the popular wine tasting and dinner prepared by our own Sam and Margaret Silverman on Saturday evening.

***Curling/wine tasting and dinner - \$35.00 per person.***

***Wine tasting and dinner - \$25.00 per person***

Sign up will be in the ladies locker room. Sign up as a team or individual. Can't curl? Then join us for dinner and wine tasting!

**For more information see Cindy Brown, Kathy Palazzoli, Barb Felice, Meredith Roefaro**

Elisabeth C. Childs  
March 1, 1921 – January 20, 2009

*Submitted by Karen Rogowski*

What do YOU think of when you hear the name Elisabeth Childs? Do you think about the “Cottages” in Connecticut, or how Elisabeth was a member of the Scot Tour in 1966? Do you think about her in her tartan skirt, broom in hand, enjoying all of the fun and camaraderie of the game she loved so much?

If you have not heard, Mrs. Childs passed away peacefully on January 20, 2009, at her home in Norfolk, CT. Sad to say, I did not recognize Elisabeth’s name when I first heard it. This is not true for many Utica Curling Club members – both young and old.

Elisabeth and her family have touched the lives of the members of the UCC. She is a descendant of the Calder family, one of many families who sustained the sport of curling in the 1850s at what is now considered the lower pond of Twin Ponds in New York Mills, NY. In 1874 the New York Mills Curling Club merged with the Utica Curling Club. Elisabeth met her husband during a bonspiel at the Utica Curling Club. When he wanted to move to Connecticut in the 1950’s, the only way she would move was if there was a curling club - so, he built one.

Elisabeth’s father, John W. Calder, skipped a team in the III (1932) Olympic Games in Lake Placid, NY as an official demonstration sport. Back home at the Utica Curling Club the Calder name is a big deal. John Calder was a great promoter of the sport of curling. Elisabeth followed in her father’s footsteps by hosting Junior curlers in her home when they were competing at the Norfolk Curling Club. (When you have a few moments, ask Bill Sewell, Bob Risley, Sharon Halligan, Liz Williams or Jason Gleason of their memories of Elisabeth Childs and the Norfolk CC.)

The Utica Glengarries named a league after John Calder. The pin depicts the original Calder crest and includes the words “Be mindful.” As Anne Burchesky wrote “it might also remind curlers to keep their mind on the game.” In 1959, the Calder league was reserved for junior skips. Today, the Calder medal is awarded to the winning team of the first level of the women’s ladder competition. In 1991, Elisabeth and the Norfolk Curling Club hosted the first Women’s Challenge. Today the event is played throughout the USCA regions to promote competitive curling among women curling 5 years and under.

The Calder family also promoted mixed curling. The Calder-Conley-Hurd event at one time was held as a "New Curler" Bonspiel with members inviting those new members they sponsored to join the club. Back on Francis Street some 40 teams would compete. Today the Calder-Conley-Hurd Bonspiel is a wonderful social curling event held in the second half of the season. Pins are awarded to the winning team of the first three events, first place being the Calder.

**A celebration of Elisabeth Child's life will be held at Church of Christ Congregational, Norfolk, on March 21 at 10 a.m.**

### *Club Nationals Update*

First, a big "Thank you" to all of the club members who have volunteered their time and talents to help make the championships a success. We still need volunteers to help during the event. See Chuck H., Colleen H., Peggy R., Karen R., Eydie, Joyce or Sue W. and offer to help them. Anyone who volunteers for one day will be admitted free for the week.

We still need donations for the program book. For as little as \$10 you can be listed as a 'friend of curling' in the book. All of the funding from this event stays with the Utica Curling Club. The committee hopes that by keeping expenses at a minimum and fundraising at a maximum we will help the club make a profit.

There will be a very special dinner on Tuesday featuring local cuisine, local beverages, and local entertainment. This is the night we will honor the teams. Let's show them what Utica is: a great place to eat, drink and socialize. Make your reservations with Chuck or Colleen Harter *now* for Tuesday, 3/10.

Come to the opening ceremonies at 1 P.M., Sunday 3/8. Welcome the club curlers to Utica Curling Club. There will be bagpipes, welcoming speeches, songs and all the participants will be on the ice. A reception will follow and the first draw will be at 4 P.M. Curling will continue all week long with the finals on Saturday.

*-Peggy Rotton*

### ***Charity Curling Challenge Results***

The Tenth Annual Charity Curling Challenge to benefit local charities was held at the Utica Curling Club on Saturday, January 17, 2009. The success of the event was made possible through joint sponsorship from Biogenics Dental Corp and Sew What. This year was the largest turn-out to date, with twenty-two teams of novice curlers “curling for a cause” and raising \$4339 for seventeen different charities. Curling is a team sport and rarely does a single person on a team receive individual recognition; however, Stu Copperwheat received honors as the individual raising the most money for his charity. Team “TriState Take-Out Artists” won honors for raising the most money as a team. The St. Elizabeth's Medical Center team "On The Rocks" won highest curling points.

Team “Site-Seeker” was named Bonspiel Grand Champion for their combined fundraising and curling ability. Team members were Skip, Cassy Bluff, Vice, Brian Bluff, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Michael Miccoli, lead, Brian Payne, 5<sup>th</sup>, Levi Spires, with M.J. Walsh as coach. The monies they raised went to benefit Upstate Cerebral Palsy.

Other teams and charities included:

- “Curl Scouts” -- Foothills Girl Scout Council
- St. Elizabeth’s Healthcare “On the Rocks” -- BPOE 2158 Booneville Elks
- St. Elizabeth’s Healthcare “Broom Dock Saints” -- BPOE 33 Utica Elks
- Faxton St. Luke's -- Alzheimer's Unit, Masonic Home
- Faxton St. Luke's -- Cystec Fibrosis Foundation
- Faxton St. Luke's -- Memory of Kaleigh Watson, C.S. Motts Children Hospital
- Faxton St. Lukes Healthcare “Stone Cold” -- Stevens Swan Humane Society
- TriState "Take Out Artists" -- Camp Good Days and Special Times
- ConMed “Sweeping Beauties” -- Center for Missing and Exploited Children
- Roller Curls -- Utica Curling Club
- Roller Curls II – Boys’ and Girls’ Club
- Holland Patent High School “Stone Sliders” -- Hope House
- Holland Patent High School “HOPACVCO” -- Stevens Swan Humane Society
- Holland Patent High School “The Bench Crew” -- Stevens Swan Humane Society

- Holland Patent High School “The "Eh" Team” -- American Cancer Society
- Holland Patent High School “The Rolling Stones” -- American Diabetes Association
- St. Elizabeth's Medical Center "30 Stones" -- Stevens Swan Humane Society
- HCCC “Town Hooligans” -- Herkimer County Humane Society
- HCCC "Rock Solid" -- Herkimer County Humane Society
- HCCC “Ice Sycles” -- Herkimer County Humane Society
- HCCC "Herkimer Ice Champs" -- Excel Peer Tutor Scholarship Fund



“The awful result of his very first attempt to become a curler”

*Punch, Feb. 6, 1907*

**SAVE THE DATE: March 26, 27, 28, 2009**

The final event of the year, known as “The Rose,” is fast approaching. What better way to end another fabulous year than to attend the closing party. Put your team together and watch the mixed board for the sign up sheet. Last year the elegance of The Rose returned to much enthusiasm and this year will be no different. The meal will be delicious, we shall dance to the wonderful entertaining group, ‘The Yard Cats,’ and of course, formal dinner attire will be required.

This is our closing party -- we shall toast the season, melt the ice, and wish everyone a wonderful and safe time until we all return.

*Bernadette & Mike DiMeo- chairs*

*Knyoca & Conrad Law- co chairs*

***Hot Shots Curling Instruction Coming to Utica***

Hot Shots Curling is coming to Utica October 16-18, 2009! The Hot Shots Curling Camp is the world leader in adult curling instruction. The camp provides the latest in instructional techniques, strategy, and equipment through intensive on-ice sessions, video analysis, and classroom instruction. Camp starts Friday afternoon and ends early afternoon Sunday. Hot Shots instructors are world class athletes, competitors, and sports educators, often including a sampler of some pretty notable curlers and coaches like Glenn Howard, John and Earle Morris, and Debbie McCormick. Many UCC members are Hot Shots alumni.

We are able to bring the camp to Utica this year for \$649 US, a significant savings from the Canadian offerings. Reserve your spot now. You can find the registration form on the UCC web site at <http://uticacurlingclub.org>, or at the Hot Shots web site, <http://hotshotscurling.com>. For more information about the camp you can visit the Hot Shots web site or contact me or Mary Jane. We hope you can take advantage of this opportunity to take your game to the next level.

*Roger Rowlett and Mary Jane Walsh*  
*UCC HotShots organizers*



*March 26, 27, 28*  
*2009*