The IceBreaker

NUTMEG CURLING at Wonderland of Ice, Greenwood Park
P.O. Box 5125, Bridgeport, CT 06610
www.nutmegcurling.com
203.339.7300

Nutmeg celebrated its Grand Opening on October 7.

Nutmeg Grand Opening

Nutmeg Curling Club opened it's new ice facility with a flourish! With Nutmeggers old and new fêting our guest with food and drink the 'Opening Party' was piped onto the ice. Everyone else lined the boards with cameras in hand.

Founding member A. Roland 'Bob' Will gave the curlers grace as a benediction and the 'Skips' took their places in each house. Mr. Will handled the first sheet, Bridgeport Mayor John Fabrizzi took charge of the center sheet and Robert Kurwin, President Pro Tem of the Bridgeport Council took the far sheet. With 'sweep' calls resounding from the Skips the 'shooters' went for the button. George Bagley, President of Nutmeg was swept by Building Committee co-chairs Jeff and Sally Hannon,. Anne Wiggins was swept by Nutmeg's first Collegiate level curler for this season, Rob Chebatar and Nutmeg Women's President Diane Muldowney. Mr. Will's 'shooter was former President Carleton Cleveland (en kilt) who was swept by the father/ daughter team of Past Presidents Chuck and Jill Owens. As a harbinger of things to come, each shot made the button!

Continued on Page 4

Message From the President

Nutmeggers:

The refrains of the bag pipes have faded from the Grand Opening ceremony but not the memory of the gathering of the membership, friends of Nutmeg, local dignitaries, our partners at Wonderland of Ice and the media. It was a grand day for curling! We dedicated the warm room in loving memory of Anita Bartlett White benefactress, long time member and friend; then dedicated our new facility with Bob Will offering the curlers' prayer followed by the throwing of opening rocks. What a fitting tribute to those who got us there! During remarks from the Mayor of Bridgeport and Lisa Fedick, owner of Wonderland of Ice and newest curling member, they recognized the unique three way partnership that made this concept a reality.

In the following pages you will read about the phenomenal response to our six open houses and you will be invited to join with us in welcoming nearly 50 new members. You will share our excitement in having hosted an oversubscribed Level 1 & Level 2 instructor's clinic. You will be overwhelmed by Jim Meinhold's report to the membership that we have been awarded a $25,750 grant to develop youth curling programs. And so much more.

Continued on Page 2

President's Message (cont'd)

During our membership meeting that preceded the grand opening, we thanked the faithful and the generous for all that you have contributed. But we have so much remaining to be done. Our three year goal is to raise our membership to 225-250 members from the current level of 40 active curlers and to begin to retire debt. Both are required before the curling club is self-supporting.

We are appealing for all Nutmeggers to come welcome and encourage our new curlers whether in the warm room or on the ice. Play as often as you can in our October –December leagues so that we can match experienced curlers with novices. We have lots of room in our leagues and would appreciate the support.

Good curling!— George Bagley, President

On The Bonspiel Trail

SIGN UP NOW
PISCES FRIENDLY
NOVEMBER 11 & 12 at Nutmeg

The annual friendly curling competition between the Nutmeg Curling Club and the Cape Cod Curling Club (located in Falmouth, MA) will be at Nutmeg this year. The first game will Saturday, November 11 at 4 pm followed by dinner. The second game will be Sunday, November 12 at 9:30 am followed by a brunch.

Continued on Page 6

NUTMEG CURLING CLUB

President	**George Bagley** gbagley@soundcommercial.com
Vice-President	**Donna Purkey** dbpurkey@optonline.net
Treasurer	**Charlie Mack** mackchas@aol.com
Secretary	**Pam Smith** pamkilbourn@smithsresearch.net
IceBreaker Editors	**Terry & Pam Smith** terencesmith@smithsresearch.net

Ice Do's and Don'ts

We have a brand new club with wonderful new ice. The ice committee worked very hard on the ice and we are rather protective of it. Here are a few things to keep in mind when on the ice.

DO

- Protect the hack from being hit by a stray rock.
- Keep your knees and hands off the ice, this leaves marks where body heat has melted the ice.
- Clean your broom after every game at least.
- Get a new broom if your old one is losing hair or the synthetic pad is worn out.
- Run the string mop after every game.
- Let the ice committee know if a handle is loose.
- Clean the inside of your gripper. Just a drop of soap with water and let dry overnight.
- Have Fun

DON'T

- Run on the ice
- Use the sideboards for walking. Staying on the ice keeps dirt and lint from getting tracked from the carpet to the ice.
- Kick the handles on the stones, they might break.
- Pick up the rocks, always slide them where needed.
- Bounce rocks off the boards, the plastic boards might crack.
- Use the straw brooms, they are for ice maintenance and we are very picky.

The ice committee is Jeff Hannon, Sally Hannon, Jim Meinhold and Bobbie Stoll.

Club Notes

A Nutmeg Grows!

The Membership Committee began their official on-ice activity last March with 'The Curling Experience' at the Wonderland of Ice. Over 150 folks came to learn about curling and romp about on the ice for a bit. Next up, the opening of our own club! With a hardy corps of volunteers (I think every Nutmegger participated!) we began our Learn To Curl Open House sessions in November. For 3 weeknights and 3 weekend days we talked about curling and taught our beloved sport to the many who came through our doors (a big thanks to Donna Purkey and her team of dedicated USCA certified instructors!). The results? We begin our season with 92 (yes, that's what I said) new curlers joining us on the ice! While Jill Owens and her membership committee are hoarse, their smiles tell the story- if you build it, they will come- and they did! Welcome to all of our new curlers! You are beginning a sport that truly can bring life-long social and sports activity and the vehicle to travel the country (and indeed the world) curling with others who love the sport from Iceland to Australia. We look forward to seeing you all on the ice, new and 'experienced' curlers alike!

— Jennifer Stannard

Saturday Afternoon Greenhorn League

Welcome to all our new Nutmeg Members

Allan Alward
Frank Aulenti
Sylvia Aulenti
Susan Bannay
Jayne Beattie
Dan Bedecker
Deanna Beeby
Holly (K.Gaydos) Berte
A.J. (Cheri) Bisson
Britt Bisson
Cheri (A.J.) Bisson
Kathleen Blaine
Elly Bockley
Karl Bockley
Linda Boulton
Bill Brautigam
Nancy Brautigam.
Bob Bray
Danielle Brown
James (Jay) Buss
David M Christoffersen
Alison Danzberger
Jason Downer
MaryRose Dymond-McGregor
Maura Faughnan
P.J. Ferguson
Jim Furnivall
George Garafolo
Keith (H.Berte) Gaydos
Sharon Giese
Jennifer Gibson
Sharon Giese
Elly Hall
David Hirx
Sarah Hirx
Mike Hope
Robert Kancir
Sue Kancir
Ann Karrick
Larry Keough
Melissa A Knees
Robert C Koetsch
Carl Larouche
Mathiew Larouche
Virginie Larouche
Marie Lavigne
Mike Lavin
Nancy Lavin
Beth Law
Mark Law
Doug Leigh
Joel Leneker
Bryan (K.Pierce) Mack
Linda Malkin
Mark Malkin
Keith Marquis
Edward Mason
Tom McGowan
Evie McGowan
Jeff McGregor
Christine McGurrin
Phil** Meagher
Don Nicholson
(Mary) Lee Paine
Michael Palazzo
Anne Palmer
Howard Palmer
Dale Parsons
Joanne Parsons
Zelie Pforzheijmer
Jack Pforzheimer
Ross Pforzheimer
Tucker Pforzheimer
Katie (B.Mack) Pierce
Robert J Reihl
Melissa** Sandford
Karen Shane
Andrew Sherriff
Jennifer Sherriff
Caron Sierra
Barry J Strobel
William Szymanski
Jack Tarleton
Fran Tartamella
Jack Tartamella
Lydia Tartamella
Alan Tonges
Victor Vega
Paul Violette
Abbie Winter
Alph Winter
Emily Winter
Joan Winter
Anton Wohlert

Grand Opening (Continued)

Sally & Jeff Hannon sweep their stone to the button for 'Skip' Mayor John Fabrizzi

Bridgeport Mayor John Fabrizzi and Nutmeg President George Bagley

Speeches followed in the warm room reflecting the appreciation of all parties that contributed to the facility we have today with landlord Lisa Fedick joining Mayor Fabrizzi in noting the exciting portent for the future of Bridgeport Curling. Messages from GNCC clubs of congratulations were noted as was a special message from Pete Fenson, Skip of the 2006 Olympic Bonze Medalist team congratulating Nutmeggers on the club and potential growth of the sport in Connecticut. Governor Jodi Rell proclaimed October 2nd as 'Nutmeg Curling Club Day in the State of Connecticut' and all present certainly felt that good will surrounding them!

Memories of Nutmeg

How great to have our own ice once again! The Grand Opening brought out so many familiar faces that it was like a trip down Memory Lane.

I remembered some other things too- about 16 years ago I attended my first 'away' game- The Two Brooms at Ardsley with Jill Owens as my Skip. (I think I burnt a stone with all of the excitement!). Making a double takeout in my second Friday night league game and hearing 'wrong handle' every time I delivered a stone during the Thanksgiving Family game- and wondering what are they talking about?

I remember Mickey Manicatide wearing bright red mittens so that Hal Bartholomew could see the hand signals; I'll miss Hal. Dianne Muldowney's take-out knocking the head off of Trish Ryan's broom when she tried to stop it. Herb Lester's favorite call to Lorac Lester- 'Call the palace- we need a guard!'. An exasperated Angelo telling me takeout weight is not parking lot weight! Andee Kittridge leaving the ice for Giff's last shot on a Sunday afternoon stating that she couldn't hold the broom for such a silly call- and Giff making the shot while Andee laughed away in the warm room.

The amusing mobile that made the compilation of gutters and oil drum into an objet d'art instead of an eyesore when our roof leaked. Chuck Owen's famous gum!

Curling has been very good to me, I've made great friends and I curled in front of a stadium full of strangers and hogged a stone (but was consoled by the Vice of Fenson's Team USA so hey, it's not ALL bad) And now I head off to Scotland for a month of curling 'in the birthplace of the roarin' game'.

Thanks to all who have brought me thus far. And as new memories begin- Jeff Hannon giving pebbling instruction in the parking lot of Wonderland of Ice and Bob Will starting us off with the Curler's Grace at the Grand Opening the future for Nutmeg Curling looks bright indeed!

— Jennifer Stannard

'Till We Curl Again

Chip & Anne Wiggins

I learned to curl on hockey ice in 1974 in Denver, Colorado. One guy in the whole club had a slider. Everyone thought he was showing off! When a corporate move to Connecticut came about in 1976, some people in the Denver Curling Club told my first husband and I there was a curling club in Darien but we wouldn't want to curl there because the people were not "friendly."

Due to "East Coast Sticker shock," getting settled away from family and having young children, we didn't pursue curling. Four years later, thanks to my daughter's gym teacher, Sally Barry, who had just discovered curling, we were nudged, cajoled and sponsored into the Nutmeg Curling Club. While my husband only lasted two years, I stayed for the next 26 with what became my second family.

Anne was honored at the end-of summer Clambake held at the Purkey's

From my first Bonspiel in Hershey, PA to the Worlds in Sweden and Scotland, nothing in the rest of my life has compared with the experiences I have enjoyed though the crazy sport of curling and the very friendly people at Nutmeg Curling Club. From starting out as a Lead and playing it for many (yes 5 years, I was a slow learner) to becoming a skip has helped me grow in more ways than just curling. Learning to say, "nice shot" to an opponent and really mean it when that shot just ruined the beautiful house my team was building is one of the many gifts of the game. The off-ice support through my divorce and remarriage was invaluable and will never be forgotten. Knowing all of you has also allowed me to be there for your joys and challenges as well.

Since I had to reluctantly pull back on my active involvement in my preparation to leave, I have noticed several things from a unique point of view. I am in awe of what a small, dedicated group of people managed to do to bring this club back to an active life. Overcoming so many obstacles, because each of you has this passion for the "Grand Old Game," is an amazing testament to commitment and persistence. This incredible desire to share it with others and not let the spirit of our club die is apparent in the new club. I am very glad I was here to see the rebirth. Yes, it is bittersweet for me and ironic, but curlers never say good-bye, there are too many opportunities to meet on the ice again. Truly, thank you all for the memories.

Sincerely,
Anne Driver, Scanlan Wiggins
(I'm tied with Sally at three for number of different last names on trophies!)

On The Bonspiel Trail (cont'd)

27th Annual Men's Achilles Invitational Bonspiel
Schenectady Curling Club November 16 18, 2006.
The big party will be on Friday night, featuring one of the area's top entertainment groups. Call Dion Warr (518) 373-0107 OR Jim Sinkins (518) 355-0014 or email dionwarr@hotmail.com email a011693allstate.com

The 2006 Calder
Norfolk Curling Club's Fiftieth Anniversary Men's Bonspiel
November 30 - December 3, 2006
Nutmeg will be represented by Team Haggis members Ken Donnelly, Cleve Cleveland, Charlie Mack and Terry Smith

The Women's National Senior Bonspiel
January 11 - 14th — Racine, Wisconsin.
The entire team of women must be age 55 or older. Should you wish to enter a team please contact Donna Purkey for information. Entries must be in the hands of the committee chair no later than Nov. 13th so please act promptly. Teams are selected by lottery from each region. Roberta Crain, Senior Bonspiel Procedure Chair, 711 Downing Street, Niskayuna, NY 12309 ,crainroberta@hotmail.com, 518-346-0639

Women's Empire State
January 18-21, 2007
Women, save the dates of January 18-21 for the 53rd Empire State Bonspiel at Ardsley. There will be a banquet at the Ardsley Country Club and an exquisite house party Thursday night. It will be fabulous!
Watch for the real invitation.
Nancy Clancy

The Women's National Bonspiel
February 8 - 11, 2007
Exmoor Curling Club in Northbrook , IL.
Teams are selected by region based on a very involved formula. Should you wish to enter a team please advise Donna Purkey and provide a check of $100 made out to Nutmeg Curling Club to Charlie Mack (CHECK AND INFORMATION TO DONNA MUST BE IN THE USWCA CHAIRS HANDS BY Dec 1ST, so call Donna first) A check from Nutmeg will be sent as intent money by Donna on behalf of the Club. Your money will be returned if your team is not selected. If there are 2 teams from Nutmeg that wish to participate a 'playdown' will be held in December to determine the 'A' and 'B' team for the competition. If Nutmeg is awarded only a single slot the 'A' team will represent the club.

Lisa Fedick — Bridgeport Sports Person of the Year

Lisa Fedick, the president and general manager of the Wonderland of Ice, has been named the Bridgeport Sports Person of the Year by the Fairfield County Sports Commission.

Fedick is being honored for her continuing efforts to grow ice skating and hockey in the city, as well as for her many charitable community efforts. Fedick has used the Wonderland of Ice to provide a safe and dependable environment for many inner-city kids. She is also the co-chairperson of the Connecticut chapter of the National Hockey League's "Hockey Fights Cancer" initiative. The three events she has coordinated thus far have helped raise more than $75,000 for that cause. Fedick, an Easton resident, has been at the Wonderland since 1989, and has helped the facility expand in many areas, including a current effort to add a second full sheet of ice and a curling rink and club program. — *Connecticut Post*

USWCA Notes

The Fall USWCA meeting was held September 14 - 16th in Chicago. Donna Purkey and Jennifer Stannard attended from Nutmeg. Donna is the former USWCA-USCA Liaison and, is now chair of the USWCA 60th Anniversary committee.

An item of interest is the growing number of men joining the organization (Cleveland, Curl Mesabi, Duluth and TCC were noted). Since the USWCA is dedicated to growing curling in a grassroots manner, there are many men who want to show support. The donation of supplies for junior curling was mentioned as one of the drivers in this area. This enables the men to participate in certain USWCA sponsored events such as the All American which seems to be an attraction in many areas!

SNET Program

We are a non-profit organization (5013C) and continue fund-raising for our new club.

SNET has offered non-profit organizations that register with them to receive 5% from anyone's long distance bill that signs up with them. Connecticut Curlers, Inc. (aka Nutmeg) is participating in this program called SNET Community Connections. If you sign up with SNET for your long-distance calling – or confirm that you are already using SNET All Distance – Connecticut Curlers will get 5% of your monthly long distance bill with no out-of-pocket cost to you!

SNET All Distance is the choice of most Connecticut households. If you are one of them, or would like to be, you can sign up for the program easily by calling 1-800-635-7638 or complete the form on the bottom of their web page www.snet.com/community.

Our number is: 3324
Group name is: Connecticut Curlers
City is: Darien

So, call SNET or go on-line and say you want the Community Connections program to benefit Connecticut Curlers, Inc.!!! By the way, anyone can participate - they don't need to be a curler. So tell your friends, family, people on the street. Enroll now and let your calls help Nutmeg!
— Jill Owens

Do you rock?

Be the"coolest" on your block – and wear a Nutmeg weRock shirt!

Wear your shirt in support of your favorite sport and club! People will stop and ask you about it! Get yours now!

Short Sleeve $19
Long Sleeve $21
sizes S-M-L-XL

To Order:
email Heide Follin at
bigwave2@optonline.net
or call: 203-847-9165

Macy's Shopping Event

Macy's Fundraiser

Nutmeg scored a big end with the fundraiser through Macy's Department stores. Macy's offered a one day shopping event on Saturday, September 16, supporting local non-profit organizations (such as ours). All participating organizations sell $5 shopping passes to the event. Each organization keeps the entire proceeds from every shopping pass they sell. Nutmeg made a whopping $710 on this fun event.

Must See TV

Fine pebble will meet exquisite bubble in Whistler, B.C., Canada, at the Korbel Elite Curling Challenge, a made-for-TV event featuring the US Women's championship team skipped by Debbie McCormick will be playing the US Men's championship team skipped by Pete Fenson. rading rocks to see who's the best on the ice.

With Korbel Champagne Cellars as the title sponsor, this joint effort between NBC Sports and USA Curling will be showcased nationally in a two-hour NBC Sports special from 2-4 p.m. ET on Thanksgiving Sunday, Nov. 26.

Ray Turnbull Curling Clinic at Nutmeg Curling Club January 12th-14th 2007

- 10 hours of instruction
- Personal video analysis
- Improve your sweeping
- Improve your delivery and shot making
- Game strategy
- All levels of curlers welcome

- 50 People maximum
- Clinic will be divided into 2 groups A & B
- A Starts Friday Jan 12th 6pm-8pm
- B Starts Friday Jan 12th 8-10pm
- Jan 13th A 9-12pm
- Jan 13th B 1-4pm
- Jan 14th B 9-11am
- Jan 14th A 11-1pm
- Jan 14th ALL 2-4pm
- Cost $150 per person

Ray Turnbull is a TSN Curling Commentator, World Champion and World Class Instructor

He has taught curling for over 30 years to more curlers in the world then anyone else Including ***18 World Champions!!!***

Contact info: Sally Hannon (MacKenzie)
203-846-6100 sally.mackenzie@avisbudget.com
Make check out to Nutmeg Curling Club and send to
Sally MacKenzie 46 Ledgewood Drive Norwalk CT 06850