



Spanner Banner

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March 23, 2011

Upcoming Events

- ◆ **March 24-27** — Cherry Blossom Bonspiel (PCC)
- ◆ **April 1** — Nominations for Board of Directors Due (Online)
- ◆ **April 10** — Board of Directors Meeting, 1:30 pm (PCC)
- ◆ **April 15** — Gala Reservations and Payment Due (Online)
- ◆ **April 16** — Final Fling/Last Day of Ice (PCC)
- ◆ **April 16** — Nominations for Recognition Awards Due (Online)
- ◆ **April 30** — 50th Anniversary Gala, 6:00 pm (Sheraton)
- ◆ **May 14** — PCC Annual Meeting (PCC)
- ◆ **May 20-22** — GNCC Annual Membership Meeting (Morristown, NJ)

The Potomac Curling Club is pleased to announce a gala dinner to be held on Saturday, April 30, in celebration of the Club's 50th Anniversary. This banquet is an opportunity for current and former PCC members to gather and commemorate fifty years of curling near our Nation's Capital. It will also be an opportunity to look to the future and our next fifty years.

This gala affair will be held at the Sheraton Washington North, just 1.8 miles south of the National Capital Curling Center. The agenda will include a social hour at 6:00 pm and dinner at

Golden Gala

7:00 pm to be followed by coffee, dessert, and a celebration of our history.

This event marks a significant milestone for PCC and is an achievement with which we should all be proud. Given the evening's significance, jackets and ties are requested for men and equally formal attire for women. Kilts are certainly welcome.

If you plan on attending, you must go to the PCC website and complete your reservation form before April 15. Be prepared to choose between three great meal choices—Chicken Picatta and

Salmon, Prime Rib, or Vegetarian Tortellini with Rose Sauce. Please see the website for payment information.

A block of rooms has been set aside for a reduced rate in case you do not wish to drive home after celebrating a wee bit too much of our history. Please contact the hotel directly if you need overnight accommodations.

The 50th Anniversary Committee, consisting of Bruce Black, Harvey Chalmers, Bob Pelletier, Linda Murphy, and Howard Griffin, has worked for two years to plan this gala. It is sure to be a memorable event!

The Gordon International Curling Medal

By: Bruce Black

The Gordon International Curling Medal has been played between the Grand National Curling Club of the United States and the Canadian Branch of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club since 1884. It has been played almost every year except when interrupted by a smallpox plague in the late 1880s, a lack of ice one year, WWI, and WWII. The competition alternates between Montreal and various GNCC locations. The last time the GNCC won this event was in Boston in 1982, and the United States had only won the competition in Montreal six times: 1884, 1904, 1935, 1938, 1942, and 1969.

This year the GNCC sent 22 teams to Montreal to compete against 44 Canadian Teams. Five games are played by each GNCC



Geoff Broadhurst, Howard Griffin, Bob Pelletier, & Bruce Black.

team—one on Thursday night, two on Friday, and two ten-end games on Saturday, March 19. Only the Saturday matches contributed to the point score for the Gordon Medal.

Representing PCC in the Saturday matches were Bruce Black (Skip), Geoff Broadhurst (Vice), Bob Pelletier, (Second), and Howard Griffin (Lead). The Black rink also had the honor of representing the GNCC in the traditional match that is played against the representative team for the Canadian Branch of the Royal Caledonian

Curling Club. This match was held at the Royal Montreal Curling Club on Saturday afternoon.

The Black rink won their Saturday morning match against the undefeated Lancaster/Cornwall team by a score of 12 to 3.

After a short break, they played the Canadian Branch. Although the team played very well, the Black rink ultimately lost 14 to 8. On the bright side, the team's overall score for the day was +3.

The final dinner and awards presentation was held on Saturday night. Whispers were heard throughout the dinner that the GNCC may have won the Gordon Medal. After dessert, it was confirmed — The GNCC had won for only the seventh time in Montreal. The final stone count was: GNCC — 374, Canadian Branch — 356.

Awards Season

Get ready to walk the red carpet—it is that time of year again, the time to recognize PCC's best! *But, FIRST, we need nominations.*

To submit your nomination, please go to www.curldc.org by April 16! You can nominate members for any or all of the following categories—

- **Curler of the Year Award**

Presented to a member (or members or team) who is a role model to other members by displaying a dedication to the sport of curling as evidenced by outstanding on-ice achievement and/or exceptional improvement in on-ice curling skills, as well as consistent on and off-ice good sportsmanship.

- **Junior Curler of the Year Award**

Presented to the junior curler that demonstrated outstanding curling skills, exceptional improvement, or superior training ability. Sportsmanship and volunteerism will also be considerations.

- **Mathews C. Waddell Award**

Presented to a member in recognition of his or her ongoing dedicated service to the Potomac Curling Club.

- **Potomac Ambassador Award**

Presented to a member in recognition of the Spirit of Curling in that individual who has exhibited outstanding qualities of enthusiasm, sportsmanship, and good citizenship, thereby being a positive representative and ambassador of the club.

- **Spirit of Curling Award**

Presented to a member in recognition of the Spirit of Curling in that individual who, in his or her first year of curling, has exhibited outstanding qualities of enthusiasm, sportsmanship, and dedication to the club. Endowed with the spirit of the true curler, he or she exemplifies the finest tradition of the roaring game.

- **Volunteer of the Year Award**

Presented to a member who has demonstrated, through the significant contributions of time, talent and effort, a powerful commitment to the continuing improvement of the Potomac Curling Club and by his or her efforts has helped deliver a high quality experience to its members and guests.

Good Curling!

Congratulations to Potomac's Team Edie for winning the GNCC Mixed National Playdowns last month. Their reward—an all-expenses-not-paid trip to Midland, Michigan to compete at the U.S. Mixed Nationals.

At Nationals, Team Edie will compete against teams from North Dakota, Illi-

nois, Ohio, Colorado, Wisconsin, Alaska, Minnesota, Washington, and Arizona.

Competition is underway this week. The finals are scheduled for Saturday, March 26. Catch the action at www.usacurl.org/curlingrocks.



Team Edie—Scott Edie, Jennifer Atkinson, Sean Murray, & Rebecca Baxter Erickson

In Memoriam

As many of you know, the Potomac Curling Club recently lost one of its long-time members, Edmund "Ed" White. In his over-thirty years as a member, Ed was one of PCC's most dedicated volunteers. Besides serving as president from 1982-1984, Ed could be counted on to write original poetry about the "roaring game," which he would read at the annual meeting. Ed was also instrumental in the efforts of PCC to build the National Capital Curling Center.

Perhaps Ed's most lasting contribution to the club has been his support for the Junior Curling Program. Ed created a fund, "the White Fund," which continues to sup-



port junior curling. Indeed, the First Event trophy for the Potomac Junior Bonspiel is named after the White Family.

In recognition of these and numerous other contributions to PCC, Ed was awarded the Mathews C. Waddell Distinguished Curler Award in 1997. Ed will be greatly missed by his many friends and family, including his curling family.

*Yes, we had a dream, you and I
Of curling ice to call our own.*

'Twas called wishful and pie in the sky.

We had our dream and not alone!

The dream is a dream no longer, my friend,

But a solid fact of steel and brick,

And people, too, curling every night, for in the end,

To keep the ice filled,—that is the trick!

—Ed White, We Had A Dream