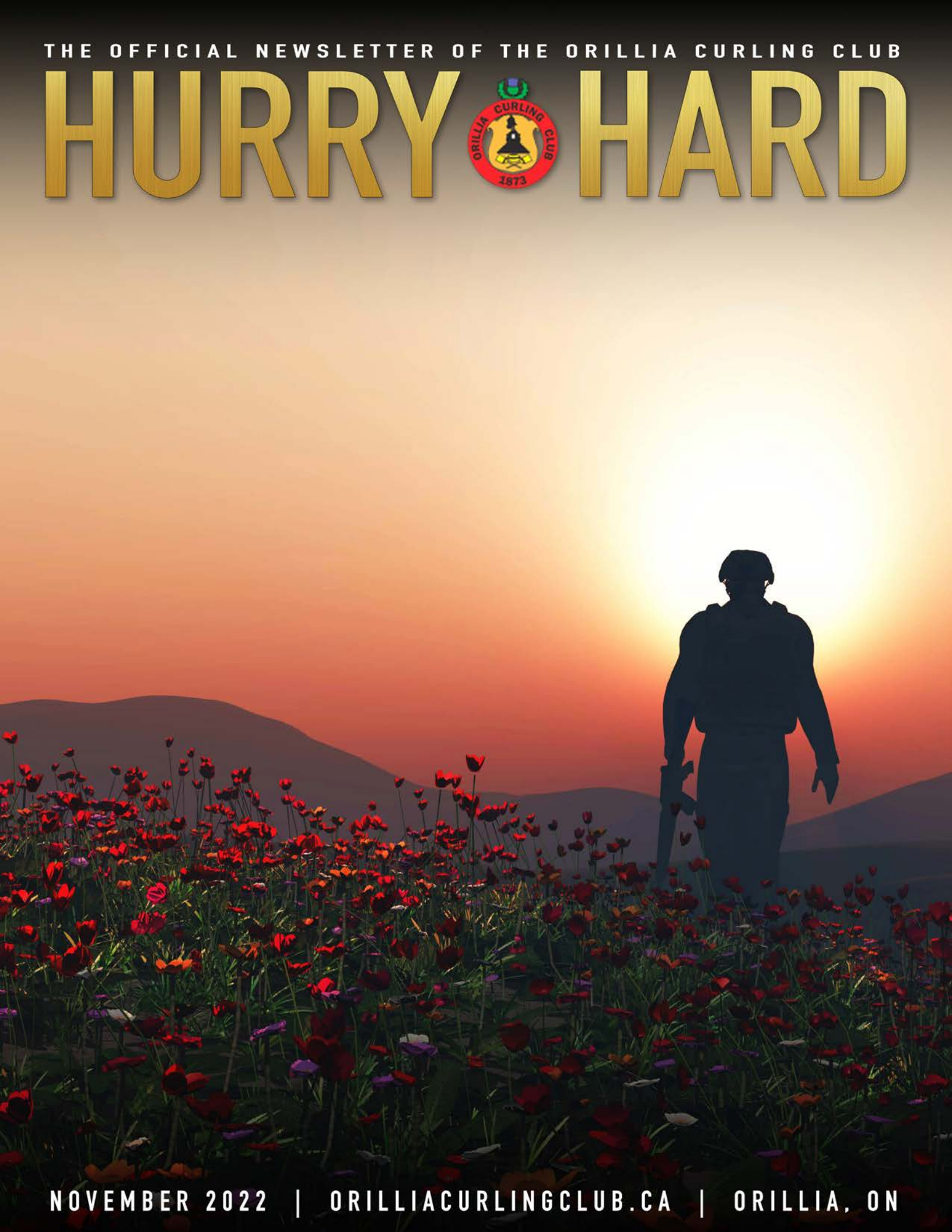


THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ORILLIA CURLING CLUB

HURRY HARD



NOVEMBER 2022 | ORILLIACURLINGCLUB.CA | ORILLIA, ON



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Connor Earl**

in this EDITION

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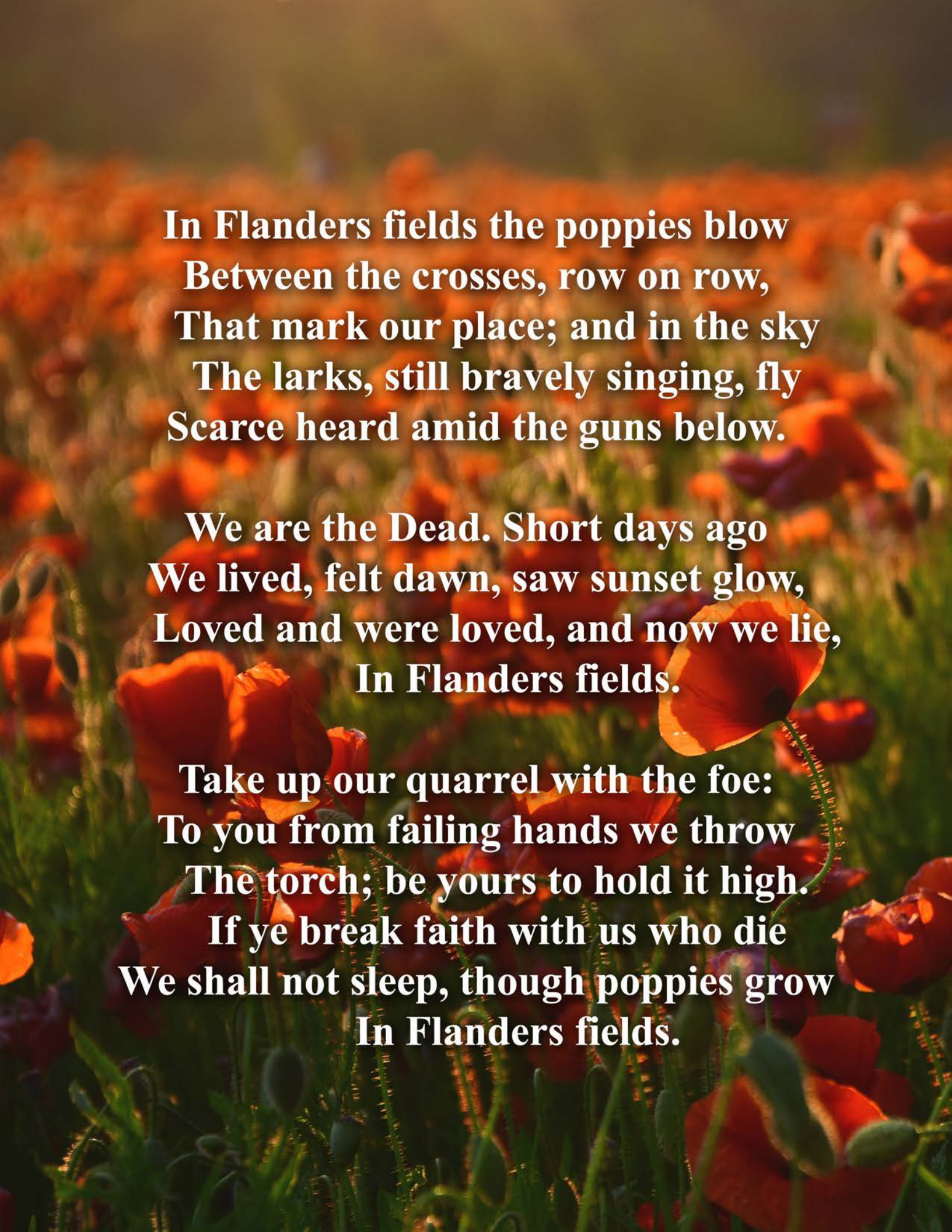
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Cover Photo: Soldier in Flanders Fields / Stock Image
End Photo: Poppy Flower Drawing / Stock Image

Orillia Curling Club
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**In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.**

**We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.**

**Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.**



Wendy Lou Bouwhuis

1999 the Orillia Curling Club was back. I had no idea what the excitement was all about. Never played the sport nor watched it. Orillia Parks & Rec offered a learn to curl so a friend and I registered, and I became a curler.

Fast forward a few years. The club was offering members a weekend learn-to-coach program. All they asked in return was a little of your time to help instruct. I thought what a great way to improve my curling and get a little involved. For me, that was the beginning.

Every year ,I enjoyed taking on different challenges (jobs). I convened the Business Women Spiel for a couple of years. Through my business contacts, I was able to source a very generous sponsor. That helped to keep the cost down and some great cash prizes. I sat on the board and convened the Friday night mixed league.

Even though my computer skills are not the best all the members bared with me. Having a small business gave me the opportunity to contribute to bonspiels, golf tournaments, and other social events.. I was always amazed the more I gave to the OCC members the more the members gave back to my business. I will say the conversation in my chair is a lot of curling chatter.

One of my favorite parts of curling is sitting around our round tables after the game. I have learned a lot and have met some wonderful people who I now call good friends. That is also where I seem to say “yes” to different jobs.

Not sure how I ended up looking after our curling roster. Back in the olden days when it was printed. I knew the club didn't make money off the advertising on the walls and we needed to make some money. I offered business advertising space In the roster. Again members and other businesses were glad to help. This also gave me the opportunity to get and meet more members and other businesses in the city. Again they got to know my name and my business.

Through life's up and down, business and personal the club and its members (my friends) have always been there for me. Twenty-two years later you won't see me on the ice 4 or 5 times a week. I'm not as involved but I'm still helping with the learn-to-curl.

After 42 years in business, it's time to slow down and smell the roses. I cherish the clientele I have built through the years and will continue to work with them until I hang up the scissors and blowdryer but I'm not there yet. For the first time in my business, I'm not taking new clients.

I am grateful for the role the Orillia Curling Club has played in building my business and my social network. You will see me and my husband, John, on Friday night. BTW I met him at the club but that's another story. I hope new and returning members get involved and enjoy the Orilla Curling Club as much as I do.

Don's Monthly Message



****Please look for a separate email coming in the next few days for Don's Monthly Message****



A Little Orillia Curling History

Curling is one of the world's oldest sports. The first recorded curling match was played in February 1541 in Scotland.

In the 1860s, Ames "Stonewall" Jackson began organizing curling on the frozen surface of Lake Couchiching. Kitchen brooms with a wide head would be used to sweep during the game. Many farmers would play throughout the winter as they had more leisure time than the rest of the year. Curling continued to be played on Lake Couchiching into the 1930s, even though it was also played at indoor rinks. The Orillia Curling Club was established in 1873.

By the 1920s, curling enthusiasts had organized a nationwide competition in Canada called 'The Brier', named after the trophy given to the winning team. The men's professional curling tournament has been held annually since 1927, except for 1943-45 during the Second World War. The women's professional Canadian tournament, 'The Scotties Tournament of Hearts', was first held in 1961.

Canadians have had considerable success curling at the Winter Olympic Games. Both the men's and women's national teams have won medals in each of the Winter Olympic Games since 1998.

Orillia has made its mark in Olympic curling. Though it would not be fathomable today, a unique situation arose at the 1932 Lake Placid Games with Orillians W.C. George and E.E. Webb. The two men were there to watch the hockey tournament. While they waited for hockey to begin, they attended a curling match between Northern Ontario and New York.

However, the Northern Ontario team was nowhere to be found, and an announcement was made for any experienced curlers to come to the office immediately to form a replacement team. Webb and George rushed down to the office and were given sweaters, brooms and were sent off to play the Americans. The team ultimately placed fifth in the tournament.

Opening Weekend – Intro to Curling

The first weekend of curling ice activity had 41 new curlers participate in the Intro to Curling Clinics put on by the Orillia Curling Club coaches/assistants.

The Intro to Curling Clinics are designed to provide enough instruction to allow new curlers to start in the leagues.

As usual all members are really helpful in continuing guidance to our new curlers, which is very much appreciated. If any new curler feels like they need more help, then register for one of the Pay to Play instructional sessions (free for members) held on Friday nights at 8:30pm or reach out to Brian.

Brian Peterson who is the new head coach for the club, arranged to have the following coaches/assistants provide instruction and support during the four 2.5 hour sessions held on Oct 8 and 9th. Thank you to Bill Baker, Jane Binns, Derek Cox, Connor Earl, Jerene Edgehill, Ted Fleming, Barb Horne, Don Kinzinger, Charlene Ley, and Brian Peterson.



New Curling Experiences

CALLING ALL MEMBERS!

Our membership numbers currently sit around 300 members which is down from the annual numbers of 360 that we were accustomed to having prior to the pandemic. This was not unexpected given the pandemic challenges as well as the hiatus last year due to the faulty pump. So we need everyone's help in spreading the word about the various curling programs we have to offer.

The programs are designed to allow non-curlers/non-members the opportunity to try curling and have some fun. The hope is that people will see what a great sport it is and even if they don't take out a membership, they are contributing to the financial viability of the club similar to a green fee in golf.

We have three OCC programs that we think will help to introduce people to curling while partially covering the monetary shortfall we have with a lower membership count.

A. Pay to Play Friday Nights 8:30 to 10:30pm – This is an instructional program where new curlers come out, are taught the basics of curling and experience an end or two. If they return, then they can participate in games as well as obtain more training. This is open to non-members and members. Everyone registers on-line via the event listings. Cost is \$20 for non-members and free for members. Perfect opportunity to bring out your family and friends.

B. Curling Socials can occur anytime when we have open ice, day or evening. These are private sessions booked through the club. They are excellent opportunities to have a work place outing, celebrating an event with family and friends, getting together and curling with golf buddies etc. Interested individuals just need to email the club, and I will contact them to determine the number of participants, number of instructors required and then schedule a session. Once scheduled, an event is created for participants to register on our website. Cost is \$20 per non-member and free for members

C. Monday Night Fun Nights. NEW – With the available ice time on Monday evenings, we think it is a good opportunity to try the various curling format/social ideas we received in the last membership survey. The costs for non-members will be approximately \$20 and there may be a minimal cost for members to participate to help offset cost of food etc.

The first one is scheduled for Nov 7 and it is a "Sticks Only" format for all people, not just stick curlers, with pizza and prizes afterwards. Registration is done via the website, so think of folks who might like to join us for this fun evening and spread the word. Keep your eyes open for future events such as Bocce Curling etc.

OCC is a popular place on Thursday's!

Thursday Night - Popular Place

As I recover from surgery, I was happy to be able to make it to the curling club to check out the action.

Thursday evenings are quite busy with the mixed draw at 6pm with an overflow of teams playing alongside the doubles league at 8:30pm.

It was great to reconnect with folks and I can't wait to get back.

Good Curling Everyone

Charlene Ley



8-ENDER

Scoring an 8-ender is quite rare and in fact the last time that this occurred at the Orillia Curling club was in 2018.

If you happen to score an 8-ender, make sure you take pictures of the house and the team and submit these to the club's email address. We will register it with CurlION who in turn will issue certificates and pins.

Charlene



Visit to the Pinty's Grand Slam of Curling

Back in October, on the Thanksgiving weekend, the famed Pinty's Grand Slam of Curling took place in North Bay, Ontario, about a 2.5-hour drive north.

One of our club members made the drive up to the venue for the round robin, draw 15 games, featuring matchups of Team Jones vs. Team Wrana (JPN), Team Einarson vs. Team Fujisawa, Team Duncan vs. Team McCarville, and Team Homan vs. Team Kim (KOR).

Tickets were only \$18 per person for round robin games, and you could either sit in the stands or walk around on ice level and get right up close to the action. As the games finished, and the teams came off the ice, you could politely ask for autographs or pictures, which a lot of people did, and almost all the curlers stopped to take pictures and sign autographs.

One thing became clear as soon as you walked onto ice level was the fact that the energy, experience, and the whole aspect of the Grand Slam is unlike watching them at home on your tv.

Hotdogs, hamburgers, and a drink were a must have and if you paid the extra, you got access to the beer area which was also popular.

It was a great day and well worth the trip!



*Photo Captions (above clockwise):
1 - The event grounds at North Bay Memorial Gardens, 2 - Emma Miskew (left) and Rachael Homan (right), 3 - Jennifer Jones (bottom left) and Team*

Upcoming Important Dates / Club Notes

NOVEMBER

November 7th, 2022

Fall Fun Stick Curling Event

6:00pm - 10:00pm at Barnfield Point Recreational Centre, Orillia, ON

All curlers, experienced and inexperienced, welcome!

November 11th, 2022

Remembrance Day



November 12th, 2022

Newbie Curling Bonspiel

9:00am - 4:00pm at Barnfield Point Recreational Centre, Orillia, ON

DECEMBER

December 17th, 2022

Santa Spiel

9:00am - 4:00pm at Barnfield Point Recreational Centre, Orillia, ON

NOTES

*Helping with Curling Instruction. If anyone is interested in taking the Club Coach course or helping our team of instructors with the various instructional programs, the email Brian Peterson.



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