

# Detroit Curling Club

Email: [info@detroitcurlingclub.com](mailto:info@detroitcurlingclub.com) Web: [www.detroitcurlingclub.com](http://www.detroitcurlingclub.com)



## Summer Scots Wha Hae

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### Calendar of Events (DCC Events)

- **June 24, 2019 – Rockettes Summer Event: Escape Room.** See *Rockette's Corner* for more information.
- **July 19-21, 2019 – Summer Food Truck Spiel** at Windy City Curling Club, IL. \$280/team. Follow link for more information: <https://windycity.curling.club/foodtruck/>.
- **November 8-10, 2019 – Detroit/Kitchener-Waterloo Exchange @ DCC.**

### House Business

**Annual Meeting Report** (reported by J. Danckaert) – The Annual meeting, held at the club facilities on Wednesday, April 14, 2019 before about 45 attendees, began promptly at 7:00 PM. Attending members submitted their votes for those they favored to replace retiring board members Josh Lopez, Roger York, Mark Hansell and Gordy Loud. Votes were collected for candidates to replace retiring GLCA, USCA, USWCA and OCA representatives along with our own DCC Trustee.

**President, Ben Levy**, delivered a heart-felt speech summarizing the season's major events and club accomplishments. He gave a general thank you to all those who volunteered their time and talents spent on club improvements, bonspiels, special events, Learn-to-Curl, club operations and administration. The results of which continue to improve and grow our club on an annual basis. Finally he thanked everyone present for helping him to cope and manage the responsibilities of being President.

**Diana Jankowski** delivered the Treasurer's Report. After the pluses and minuses were tallied, the net result reported \$186,160 income for the season as of March 31. The balance sheet shows no long-term liabilities and cash-on-hand, which includes the general accounts plus the Rockettes and Sinners accounts at \$236,769. The Trustee account as of March 31, 2019 totals \$743,685 with deposits made to date amounting to \$560,000. The Board recommended investing \$100,000 into the investment account, leaving approximately \$150,000 to cover end-of-season and summer improvement expenses plus season opening expenses for the 2019-20 season.

**Duke Grimshaw** reported the club invested \$275,000 with the club financial advisor, LPL Financial on December, 31, 2018. And since that initial investment, the account has steadily grown to \$748,688 as of April 1, 2019. For the period from March 31, 2018 to April 1, 2019, the fund grew by \$138,013. (6.10%). The Trustees do not plan to make any investment strategy changes at the present time.

**Mike Grudzinski** reported on the Learn-to-Curl program indicating volunteer response at approximately 80 members, consistent with last year's participation. Michael indicated the program continues to be very successful because of the quality of the volunteers that assist in the training and coaching. Sign-ups following the mini-bonspiel amounted to 50 new members. Michael is planning on two sessions for the coming season and is confident the members will strongly support the effort again.

### Events at a Glance

### Tentative Summer Newsletter Schedule

Weekly editions to  
start November!

**Josh Lopez** reported we had 12 hosted events at the club this past season. That is an average of a hosted event every two weeks. The final event is the Motor City Open to be held from May 3-5. The event has been booked solid for several weeks and promises to become a significant event well into the future. Josh extended a special acknowledgement to Eric Kortebein for delivering the best ice this club has had since it's opening in 2002. Josh promises to have several summer activities for members to enjoy and advises everyone to watch the Scots Wha Hae for news updates.

**Ben Levy** reported our membership count is the highest it has ever been, holding at 334 members. His report indicated the membership breakdown at 196 Class A, 111 Class B, 11 Class C, and 16 Life members. It was also reported that 25 current members have history with the club dating back to the Forest and Haggerty facilities. Remarkable dedication to the sport and the club!

**Mark Hansell** reported the club facilities had a significant number of big improvements including the upgraded insulation and finishing of the arena knee walls, and all the improvements to the warm room. A special thanks was extended to John Danckaert for spearheading these two major improvements. Additionally, several electrical improvements were made in support of the areas lighting and power distribution in the warm room, Pro Shop and kitchen. The experiment with a new cleaning service netted a less-than-desirable result and will be addressed during the summer. All safety and health inspections went well, without incident. Mark extended a heart-felt thanks to all who volunteered to pick up, mop up, lock up and/or donated time and talent to make our facilities operate smoothly and efficiently.

**John Danckaert** reported the Scots Wha Hae (SWH) and Pro Shop are healthy. He asks all members to keep the membership advised of their adventures during the off months by sending news items to the SWH. John stated he will be offering new items into the Pro Shop next season. Watch for updates in the SWH. Finally, he gave special mention of Lynden Gault, who is the Chief Editor of the SWH, acknowledging the fact that without Lynden, we would not have a newsletter! She is the "glue" that keeps the newsletter going weekly.

**Brooke Schneider's** bar report summarized the membership approval of the third beer tap, the introduction of a variety of craft beers during the season, the addition of Michigan wines and liquors and the much improved billing and payment system put into place this year. Proposals for an additional cooler and more appropriate storage for the pantry will be submitted to the board during the off season. A special thanks went out to Tom Nowaczok and Chris Thomas (beer), Jeff Deneen (liquor), Laura Call (wine) and Bartenders Derek Gossett and Frank Stephens.

**Laura Gilchrist** reported 148 members volunteered to support club activities this past season. This is the first time a true tally of who volunteered how much has been tracked for an entire season. The numbers are decent, but not outstanding. She stressed that less than half the membership is contributing. A total of 2,012 hours were logged. That is the equivalent of two persons working 8.4 hrs/day, five days per week, for six months. The sign-up web site offered 753 unique volunteer opportunities. Members filled 409, and many of them were repeat volunteers. The weakest category was help maintaining the ice. Laura stressed this is a mostly volunteer club, and as such, every member needs to contribute and the best way is to use the web site.

**Dan Maggio and Gordy Loud** reported another record setting season of the rental program. Over 450 requests were handled and the net profit generated by the program is estimated to be \$130,000. The highest percentage of revenue occurred in December, followed by April. The most popular days are on the weekends and the least rented time is on Wednesday, in case you are thinking of renting some time. A special thanks was extended to those members who come in to manage our guests. They are obviously doing things right!

**Duke Grimshaw** was pleased with the growth and skill level within the Juniors Program. The 3rd Annual Jr. Bonspiel had 12 teams participate. Currently DCC has 3 members while Midland has four teams. He is working on a mini-junior program for children, ages 3-6. (His grandkids). Special thanks to Dallas Schneider, Fred Zosel, Pete Sylvain, Joe George, Geoff and Kelly Soerens, Martin de la Merced and Diana Jankowski for all their help in the program.

**Adam Rivera** named 20 members that contributed their time and talents to making the ice some of the best we have ever seen since opening in 2002. (Refer to the full Annual Report for more detail.). The board is currently soliciting bids to replace the arena lighting with new LED fixtures. Stay tuned for more updates in the SWH. Roger York thanked each of the league drawmasters for their time and creative energy to make the nightly leagues fun and desirable. Roger developed a detailed breakdown of the membership by leagues and class status for the purpose of analyzing what leagues need help, or what days/nights might be considered to expand or redefine the league system. This approach shows much potential for the new strategic planning committee.

**Duke Grimshaw and Fred Zosel** discussed the upcoming first meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee, scheduled to meet on Thursday, May 9 at the DCC facilities. Time of the meeting was not indicated. Duke indicated the board is investigating possible improvements to the web site on both the front and back ends. More will be forthcoming on this topic after the new board meets.

**Ben Levy** reported on regional GLCA business that affects DCC. The Women's team of Ann Swisshelm, Elizabeth Demers, Jenny Levy, Melissa Turbow and Suzanne Hansell won the ladies regional event in march at the Lakeville, Minn Curling Club. Next season, DCC will be hosting the regional club championships. Ben noted if any DCC member attended there or more regional club events this past season, a special pin will be given to you. Ask Paul Badgero, Ben Levy or Josh Lopez for more information. Finally, the spring GLCA meeting will be in Bowling Green on Saturday, May 11, 2019, and is open to anyone wanting to attend.

**Bethany Rivera** reported on the USWCA as our representative. Elizabeth Demers has been nominated to the USWCA Board. She also heads up the Digital and Technology Advancement Committee. Maryanne Wessels provides

creative support to the organization. Next season the National Women's Bonspiel will be held in Seattle, Washington, and the Sr. National Bonspiel will be in Albany, New York.

**Dave Nelsen** will be taking over the reigns as our OCA-Zone 16 representative from Ben Levy. Brooke Schneider will remain our second rep.

**Dave Nelsen** reported the Sinners will be making a proposal to the board to cover the cost to replace the warm room chairs. Dave also mentioned the next major event sponsored by the Sinners will be the annual KW/DCC Exchange happening on November 9-11, 2019.

**Laura Call** reported the Rockettes are supporting the Women's International spiel and the Meat & Greet spiel next season. They will also be offering food sales, tee shirts and hoodies, and help with the ice next season. The Rockettes provide sticky mats, business cards, warm room furniture, prizes for in-house bonspiels and a new draw curtain to obscure the daylight glare problem emanating from the front entrance. The newly elected Rockettes Board Members are Pam Buchkowski, Bonnie Czander and Stephanie Grant.

**Awards** are given each year to deserving members who have made significant contributions to the club and the membership. Several members were nominated and it is the job of the President to select one person to receive the **President's Award** (formerly known as the Will Oliver Award). This award this year went to **Larry Aubuchon**. According to Ben, his contributions as a one of our newer members was outstanding and has made a substantial difference in our club. Congratulations Larry! Additionally, members are named to the **Chuck Thomas Award** to honor their sportsmanship, on and off the ice. These individuals (one a veteran and one a member for 7 years or less) are recognized for promoting the spirit of the game and the club, and for their willingness to share in that spirit. This year we congratulate **Bill Morris and Melissa Turbow** (pictured at right). Thank you for all you do!



#### **Election Results:**

New Board Members are: Bret Jackson, Ann Gabhart and Martin de la Merced

**New GLCA Rep:** Bret Jackson

**Trustee:** Bethany Rivera

#### **Board Assignments:**

President: Duke Grimshaw

Vice President: Adam Rivera

Secretary: Gordy Loud

Treasurer: Diana Jankowski

Asst. Treasurer: Laura Gilchrist

Balance of Board Positions: TBD



**Strategic Planning News Brief** – There have been two meetings held at the club in the past four weeks to begin the process of establishing a new strategic plan for our club. The purpose of the plan is to set goals and processes down in writing with the consensus of the club members to steer our club into the future. Approximately 30 to 35 members have participated in the meetings thus far and the two-hour meetings have thus far produced an updated Vision Statement and Mission Statement. Additionally during the second meeting the group has identified club strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats that will be considered key topics for establishing strategies and action steps that will lead our membership into the future in a positive and effective way. There will be several more of these meetings, occurring approximately every two weeks, to continue to develop the strategic plan. If you care about your club, want to see it improve and have a couple of hours to spend with us, plan to attend and contribute your ideas and opinions. The rewards will be worth it. Next meeting is in the club warm room at 6:30-8:30 PM on June 20. Hope to see everyone there.

#### **Bonspiels and Special Events**

**A Special Thanks** – After the Motor City Open wrapped up on Sunday, some of the Detroit members helped Eric out by removing the rocks from the ice and putting them away. They

removed the carpet around the ice, the benches and equipment, and put them all away in preparation for the ice melting. Along with them, the team from Brampton Ontario (Team Lagerquist), that just finished 2nd in the A Event, graciously stuck around to help out too. They didn't need to do this, but did, and it was much appreciated. This act of kindness exemplifies the spirit of this great game and the DCC would like to thank these men for their help!

Below are photos of beer keg curling, played to get the kegs off the ice to clean up the carpet.

Article and photos  
submitted by Michael  
Clapsadle.



## **In Memoriam**

It is with sadness that we send the news of the passing of Detroit Curling Club life member Ethel Allingham.

Ethel Kathryn Allingham, age 94 of Adrian, formerly of Rochester, MI, passed away Sunday, April 28, 2019, at Charlotte Stephenson Manor, surrounded by her family. She was born July 27, 1924, in Detroit, to Samuel and Hilda (Browne) Pink. After graduating early from Farmington High School, Ethel attended Michigan State Normal School, (now Eastern Michigan University) where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education. After graduation, she taught elementary school in Detroit.

In 1951 she married John Chesley Allingham, and they celebrated 58 years together before his death in 2009. They spent the majority of their married life in Rochester where Ethel was active in many women's groups. Ethel and Jack were members of the Detroit Curling Club for over 50 years. They spent many happy summers on Campobello Island in New Brunswick, Canada. Ethel was a generous hostess and loved playing the piano while her guests sang along.

Ethel is survived by her children, Robert (Nancy Moore) Allingham of Sacramento, CA and Kathryn (John Kuschell) Allingham of Adrian; grandsons, Allen Kuschell of Baltimore, MD and Robert Kuschell of Chicago, IL; and siblings, William Pink of Clarkston, MI and Lawrence (Marie) Pink of Crystal River, FL.

Contributions in memory of Ethel are suggested to Associated Charities of Lenawee County, the Croswell Opera House and Hospice of Lenawee. Online condolences and memories may be shared at [www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com](http://www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com).

## **Rockettes Corner**

**Escape Room Event** – The Rockettes are planning their first summer event!

Where: Escape Room Novi, Fountain Walk, 44325 W 12 Mile Ste H175, Novi, MI 48377

When: Monday, June 24th between 7:00pm-8:30pm

**Details:** The cost is \$25 per person and we will book easy and moderate escape rooms.

If you would like to join us, we will be booking rooms based on the number of Rockettes.

Please confirm your reservation by emailing Pam Buchkowski - [psabara@wowway.com](mailto:psabara@wowway.com) by Wednesday, June 5th, and let her know if you have ever done an escape room in the past, or if this will be your first time.

We will collect money the day of the event.



For more information on Escape Room Novi, please visit their website:  
<https://www.escaperoomnovi.com>.

**Senior Women's Bonspiel** – Invitations for the 2019 Sr. Women's Bonspiel being held in Albany, NY from November 20-24 are out with a signup deadline of September 6, 2019. This event is open to USWCA women age 55 years and older by January 1, 2020. Teams enter their own application and attendees are selected via lottery from the four regions. If you are interested in applying, Bethany Rivera can email you the invitation or you can access it directly on the USWCA.org website. There is no limit to how many teams apply from the DCC, however, only one team from Detroit would be selected. The Super Senior Bonspiel (65 and older) will take place on the day immediately prior on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 also at Albany CC.

**USWCA National Bonspiel** – The 2020 USWCA National Bonspiel has MOVED to Seattle, WA and will be held February 19-23, 2020. If more than one team from Detroit is interested, we will have a playdown next fall (date and time TBD). If interested, please let Bethany Rivera know of your interest as soon as possible.

**New for next year** – All USWCA Circuit participants must sign up prior to their first bonspiel on-line and pay via paypal. The USWCA will no longer be accepting checks or allowing individuals to sign-up after their first game at a Circuit Bonspiel. If you have questions, please see Bethany Rivera.

As always, if you have questions or suggestions or want to be involved, please contact the Rockettes board via email [Rockettes@detroitcurlingclub.com](mailto:Rockettes@detroitcurlingclub.com) or a Rockette Board Member (see contacts on last page).

## **Sinners News**

*The Detroit Curling Club Royal Order of Sinners men's club promotes fellowship and camaraderie on and off the ice while creating benefits and lasting experiences.*

The Last Chance Sinners Breakfast was held on April 14, 2019. Thirty participants came out to sin for one last time this season. Congratulations to John Gaul and John Besic who received their Sinners Cards and are now proud, card-carrying members of the Order. We welcomed three first-time Sinners to their first meeting of The Order: Justin Wesley, Tony Doemer, and Chase Ansok. Thanks to Tony Doemer for bringing first-rate smoked beef brisket to the event – this was certainly a treat! The raffle table was bountiful and the morning's stories were certainly for "Sinners Only." Long-time Sinner and Kitchen Crew member, Joe Bonfoey, hung up his apron as he will be retiring to Northern Michigan. Joe will be missed and his many years of service to The Detroit Curling Club Royal Order of Sinners will always be appreciated. Keep an eye out for next season's Sinners Calendar and plan to sin with us soon!

Our first event of the 2019-2020 curling season will be the Detroit end of the Detroit/Kitchener-Waterloo Exchange. This event will take place on November 8, 9, and 10 2019. Details regarding the event and our full 2019-2020 Schedule of Events will be out well in advance of the start of the next curling season.

For questions or further information, email The Sinners at: [sinners@detroitcurlingclub.com](mailto:sinners@detroitcurlingclub.com).

## **Member Additions**

**Off-Season Fun** – The Sunday night league team of Karina Ansok, Scott Hill, Troy Stevenson and Melissa Turbow were recently caught bowling and playing shuffle board at the Madison Park Family Bowling Center. They have wasted no time finding other entertainment to occupy their time since league curling has ended. Great to see members getting together for other activities. Rumor has it that Melissa is the strike queen of the group. Keep throwing things for fun!



## **Communication and Website News**

**DCC Website Instructions for Signing In** – Every member should be aware of the procedures to set up your accessibility to all the great web site features. If you have not signed in yet, follow these instructions and save your user name and password to stay informed. Keep these instructions handy in case you forget your sign in information.

### Retrieving Your Username & Password

You will only be able to complete these steps once you are seeing the new website when you go to [www.detroitcurlingclub.com](http://www.detroitcurlingclub.com). If you do not see, "Forgot Login," as mentioned below you will need to wait a while and try loading the site again.

1. On the right side, under the Member Login section, click on the words Forgot Login.
2. Click to check the box for Lost Username and a space to enter your email address will appear.
3. Enter you email address and click the Send Username button. If you see a message that your email address does not exist on the site, please email [membership@detroitcurlingclub.com](mailto:membership@detroitcurlingclub.com) so we can update your email address.
4. Check your email and you should receive a message with your username.
5. Return to the DCC website and again click on the words Forgot Login under the Member Login section.
6. Click to check the box for Lost Password and spaces for entering both your username and email address will appear.
7. Enter both your username and password and click the Send Password button.
8. Check your email and you should receive a message with a new password.
9. Return to the DCC website and use your username and new password to log in.

### Changing Your Password

1. After you have logged in, click on My Information under the Member Menu on the right side.
2. Near the top left of your profile click on Edit and then choose Update Your Profile.
3. Click on User Info to switch to the username and password settings.
4. Enter your desired password in the space provided, and enter it again in the Verify Password field.
5. Click the Update button to save your changes.