

Oak Bay Lawn Bowling Club

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Publicity-Barbara Floyd Member Services-Dolores Troyer Past President-Mickey Sendall Tournament Catering-Vacant
Club website: www.bowlsoakbay.ca

FROM THE PRESIDENT

APPROVED!! Most members will be aware by now that our application for a grant from the Provincial Government under its 2010 Olympics legacy program for the Carnarvon House Expansion Project has been approved. This piece of good news, conveyed to us mid- February, came on top of the earlier commitment by the Oak Bay Municipal Council to give us substantial help financially with the project. With these two major pieces of the jigsaw puzzle in place for the funding of this venture, we can now say with a real sense of conviction, pride and satisfaction that we have reached yet another point in our 52-year history that promises an even more exciting future ahead -- a future that will enable us to provide greatly improved facilities not only for our own growing requirements but also help us to reach out and serve our community better.

We would not have been able to reach this point, however, without the tremendous help, support and encouragement that we have received from two of our staunchest friends -- Ida Chong, MLA and currently Minister of Community Services and Minister for Seniors' and Women's' Issues, and Mayor Christopher Causton. And I must also record here the instrumental role that Mickey Sendall has played in securing these funds. She initiated the application when she was President last year, and with the help of those on the Planning and Development Committee, notably Sheldon Rowell, steered the application through to what has obviously been a very successful conclusion.

But I must inject a note of caution here. The funds to be provided by the Province and the Municipality, together with what we have in our Capital Projects Reserve, will be insufficient to cover the full project costs. There is going to be a shortfall of \$20,000.00 or more even if the original estimate prepared almost five months ago still holds good. So clearly we will need to work very hard to raise the money that will be needed to fill the gap. I believe we have put together a strong team to raise the necessary funds and oversee the implementation of the project, and am hopeful that we will see it completed on time and within budget.

In tandem with the work on the expansion project, the Executive has taken steps to streamline the Club's membership structure, with only a nominal increase in fees, and to rationalize certain of our practices, notably the elimination of charges for the use of the telephone for local calls and the borrowing of books. In addition, a Recruitment Task Force has been established and is hard at work to bring in fresh blood, the target being a net increase of at least 10% or 30 new members.

As the Club continues to grow and evolve, both in terms of membership numbers and in the strength and variety of the program of activities that are available to our members throughout the year, I would like to emphasize that outdoor lawn bowling will remain its primary focus. We will continue to provide a healthy mix of and balance between draw play and social and competitive bowling, with ample opportunity being made available for both working and retired members to participate in daytime and evening bowling.

Having said all this, there is one area where there is ample room for improvement. On the Executive there are still positions that remain vacant --- Publicity and Tournament Catering. We are fortunate that there are members who are prepared to step forward to volunteer their time and effort but sadly they are few and far between. As has been said before by my predecessors, we are a Club which is what its membership makes of it: so far, the record speaks for itself --- the Club has evolved over the years into a dynamic and friendly venue, not only for social and competitive bowling but also for a comprehensive and lively year-round program of social and recreational activities of which we can be justifiably proud. But the Club cannot continue to rely on the efforts of a few dedicated members to sustain the high standards that have been achieved in regards to greens and gardens maintenance, management of bowling activities, Club administration and promotion of the Club's attributes to attract new members. I would therefore like to end this message with the fervent plea that members should come forward to lend their full support in whatever way they can to enable the Club to continue to move forward.

Harnam Grewal

Gary and Jody Robinson

are moving to Parksville and Jody has started a new job in Nanaimo, and will therefore be leaving the Club. Harnam thanked Gary for his sterling service to the Club as Games Chair, and for setting such high standards of play and sportsmanship on the Bowling Green through his Canadian and Provincial Gold Medal performances with Jody.

WINTER ACTIVITIES

All participants continue to enjoy their afternoons at the Club playing Bridge, Cribbage, Darts and Mah Jong. And those participating in Short Mat are enjoying the rivalry as they move through the Round Robin section of both Pairs and Singles. On January 20th ten short mat players accepted an invitation from Sidney to enjoy a fun afternoon of bowling (they have three mats), and it really was fun.

All activities will continue through until the end of March with both the Bridge and Cribbage sections having wind-up teas.

Marion Woiblet

Coaching

Coaching of new members, especially those who sign up at Open House, will begin on Monday, April 10th.

All the coaches and their assistants will be looking forward to introducing them to the skills and fun of Bowling on the Green.

Lois Young

GAMES-Count Down to Bowling!

Soon we will be on the greens. Since assuming the position of Games Chair in January, after the Robinson's moved to Parksville, I've had the help of a great committee. I want to thank the many members who have agreed to manage tournaments, special events and open draws. All is in place for a great season except for the very popular Thursday Special Draws. I'm looking for four duos who will take on this responsibility for four weeks each. We all appreciate the great job Shel and Barbara did this past season filling in for the MacKay's. Now lets not let these fun days pass into history. Give me a call and volunteer. There will be help in learning the how-to's!

Marilyn Turpin (592-3666)
Games Chairman

MEMBER SERVICES

One of my executive duties is to promote lawn bowling within the Club. We are in need of new members for this new bowling season. It would be wonderful if each one of you could bring one or two prospective members to our Open House Sunday April 9th. At this time they could learn about our sport and throw a few bowls.

We are still looking for someone to take over the executive position of Publicity. Please think about it. Talk to the president – it is not a very big job!

Dolores Troyer

\$25,000

That's about what we need to raise on top of the money coming to us from the province and the municipality in order for us to expand our facilities.

I have agreed to chair a fund raising committee to raise this sum from a variety of endeavors. I hope to have a full report to club members at the Semi-AGM in April and that will set out our schemes, plots, ventures, and appeals.

This is not a huge sum to contemplate representing as it does about \$140 per member and we have some time to achieve it. It is, however, a lot to raise solely from such things as 50-50 draws, raffles, garage sales and etc. I fear that we shall have to work hard to find other ways than those to raise substantial funds so I hope that everyone will be as generous as their circumstances allow.

Watch for the fund-raising notices and events as they occur. They will help the club meet its expansion plans and should provide a variety of fun events.

Thank you for your anticipated generosity. Any suggestions for fund-raisers will be appreciated by the committee.

Have a great season in 2006.

Barry Browning.

CARNARVON HOUSE EXPANSION

- A letter received from the Provincial Government has confirmed that the grant for \$113,704.00 has been approved. Contract has been received and is currently being carefully reviewed before signing.
- The Planning and Development Committee has appointed Gary Suter to serve as Project Manager for the expansion.
- Charles Kierulf of de Hoog & Kierulf has been appointed as our Architect for the project .
- Barry Browning has been appointed as Chair for the Fund Raising Committee.
- Several meetings have been held with the Planning & Development Commiittee (Harnam Grewall, John Nadin, Shel Rowell, Gary Suter and Mickey Sendall) and Charles Kierulf.
- Charles Kierulf is liaising with Oak Bay Municipality regarding the project within the next 10 days.
- Dave Jantzi has agreed to manage the financial dealings for the project.
- Drawings are almost finalized and will be presented at the Semi-annual General Meeting as will a full report from the Planning and Development Committee.
- An Information Meeting is being arranged with our immediate neighbours for April 2nd to advise them of our plans.

Mickey Sendall, Chair, Planning & Development Committee.

HOUSE COMMITTEE

The activities that will be ongoing over the coming season will require volunteers. Wednesday and Saturday Tea Days and competition Tea Breaks have to be staffed and I ask you to sign up to help.

Cleaning of the two buildings has to be done every Monday morning and again Volunteers will be needed (preferably three people) each day.

Tea days and housekeeping Rosters will be posted and ready to be signed at the Semi Annual Meeting.

In advance – THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP!

Prim Wood

For your Information

Members and Winter Paying Guests may use the Club telephone to make local calls and may borrow books from the Club library, all without charge.

GARAGE SALE – APRIL 22, 2006 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

All profits from the 2006 OBLBC Garage Sale will be directed to the Carnarvon House expansion project so this year, more than ever, it is important that we make a record profit. Many volunteers have come together to ensure that the very best results may be obtained for this endeavor. The sale will include a Raffle, Bake Sale and Plant Sale.

The Executive wish to thank Mavis Beechy, Mary and Barry Browning, our co-chairs, and all those club members who have volunteered to help, and there are many. Their determination to make this event successful is much appreciated. In order to ensure that their time and effort is worthwhile, we ask that only saleable items be donated so that we will have a high standard of goods to offer.

Donations for the sale may be dropped off in Anderson House from 10 – 12 noon daily Monday, April 17th to Friday, April 21st.

PLEASE leave donated items stacked as neatly as possible under the windows without blocking access to any lockers because coaching will be in progress that week.

- **PLEASE – NO JUNK! If it is broken, chipped or not in working order it simply won't sell.**
- **NO U/S ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES**
- **NO CLOTHING OR SHOES**
- **NO PERISHABLES (except items for the Bake Sale)**

We hope to receive a lot of baked goods to sell this year as it is always a popular stall. Please drop off your bake sale items on Friday, April 21st and up to 8:30 on Saturday morning.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT A REASONABLE COST.

In advance of the event, I want to thank **everyone** involved for their support in this endeavour and I hope to see you all there on **Saturday April 22nd.**

Mickey Sendall

Actual writings on hospital charts:

1. She has no rigors or shaking chills, but her husband states she was very hot in bed last night.
2. Patient has chest pain if she lies on her left side for over a year.
3. On the second day the knee was better, and on the third day it disappeared.
4. The patient is tearful and crying constantly. She also appears to be depressed.
5. The patient has been depressed since she began seeing me in 1993.
6. Discharge status: Alive but without my permission.
7. The patient refused autopsy.
8. While in ER, she was examined, x-rated and sent home.

Brief Bio of the President

Born in Hong Kong in December 1937, Harnam spent the majority of his childhood years in his ancestral village in the Punjab. He had four years of primary schooling there before the family returned to the Colony in the summer of 1947.

Harnam did not know any English when he entered school in Hong Kong at the age of ten. He quickly learned, however, and completed his secondary education before entering the University of Hong Kong in 1956 to read English under Professor Edmund Blunden, the late English poet, scholar and writer. After taking his BA(Hons) degree, Harnam did a Diploma in Education, intending to pursue a career in teaching. However, on completing his diploma in 1960, he decided to do another degree, at Cambridge, where he read Geography, another of his favourite subjects.

During the four-month summer break in 1961, Harnam came across to Canada and spent three months in Vancouver and a week in Victoria to do research for a paper required for his Finals at Cambridge, the subject being "Canadians of East Indian Origin in British Columbia - With Special Reference to Their Role in the Lumber Industry of the Province". So he has a connection, tenuous though it may be, to Victoria going back over 45 years.

Harnam returned to Hong Kong after completing his degree in 1962, and became a school teacher. Two years later, he applied for and was accepted into the Administrative Service of the Hong Kong Government from which he retired on medical grounds in 1990 to join his family who had immigrated here in 1987. He held various positions in the Government including that of District Officer, Tai Po, Deputy Director of Urban Services, Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Secretary for Transport and Secretary for the Civil Service. Harnam was a member of the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) from 1963 to 1984, retiring from active service with the rank of Major. He was appointed Honorary Colonel of the Regiment in 1987 and served in that capacity for three years.

As regards sporting pursuits, his preoccupation from his early schooldays was field hockey. He represented Hong Kong at the IV Asian Games in Djakarta in 1962 and V Asian Games in Bangkok in 1966, and played for Hong Kong at the XVIII Olympic Games in Tokyo in 1964. Although two of his team-mates at the time were double Internationals, representing Hong Kong at both field hockey and lawn bowls, Harnam never did take up the latter game, much to his deep and lasting regret, until he joined Oak Bay LBC in 2001. Now, according to his wife, Sherree, lawn bowling has become his consuming passion.

Harnam was awarded the CBE (Commander of the Order of the British Empire) in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in June 1990, and received the decoration from Her Majesty in Buckingham Palace in November of that year. He received the ED (Efficiency Decoration) for his service in the Volunteers in 1976.

Harnam and Sherree (also born and raised in Hong Kong) were married in Chandigarh, India in December 1973. They have a daughter and a son. His goal now is to persuade Sherree to take up bowling, and thinks that she will relent and do so once she has retired in the not too distant future."

Take care.

Harnam

Any Submissions or Corrections <mailto:ray.troyer@telus.net>