

# Oak Bay Lawn Bowling Club

Volume XV Issue 8

2190 Harlow Drive, Victoria, B.C., V8R 3J1

Jan. 20, 2010

**President**-John Cossom, **1st Vice-President**-Linda Carswell-Bland, **2nd Vice-President**-Pat Thomas, **Secretary**-David Roberts, **Treasurer**-Marion Andrews, **Assistant Treasurer**-Joan Firkins, **Games**-Helen Kempster, **Greens**-John Nadin, **House**-Kay Alexander, **Member without portfolio**-Louise Mason, **Player Development** -Harnam Grewal, **Publicity**- Shelley Sidel, **Member Services**-Margaret Machan, **Past President**-Gary Suter.

Club website: [www.bowlsoakbay.ca](http://www.bowlsoakbay.ca)

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Here we are in a fresh decade already. It only seems like yesterday that we entered the new millenium! Time does hurtle along. Looking at it positively, it won't be too long before we ready our greens for spring play, hold our Open House, and recruit and coach new members.

In the meantime many members are taking advantage of our winter array of programmes – playing a wide variety of games and enjoying friendly competition and socialization. We welcome those new social members who have joined and are participating in these activities.

We hope you'll join us at our Chinese New Year's Dinner on February 11. (More details on how to book this and the following event are found elsewhere in this Newsletter.) Then there's an informal dinner to be held in Carnarvon House on Sunday February 28, where you can watch the Olympics Closing Ceremonies event on our new audio-visual equipment. I'm told that it projects a very clear, large-screen picture. Of course you are welcome to drop in and watch other Olympic events at any time from February 12-28.

All good wishes to you for 2010. My New Year's wish for you is that your bowls behave as you want them to more often in the coming year!

John Cossom.

## A NOTE FROM JAY DODGE:

John

Thank you so much for your kind thought in expressing sympathy on behalf of O.B.L.C. for the recent loss of my husband Gar. It was always a disappointment to me that he was not able to participate and enjoy the wonderful game and fellowship of the club.

As a family, we thank you for your concern and may the club have another successful year. Fondest regards to all.

Sincerely, Jay Dodge

## HOUSE

Happy New Year! We finished the year with a very successful Xmas party enjoyed by all. Our next function is 11th Feb, and tickets are selling fast. If you have booked tickets please pay (cash if possible) to Joan Roberts, or Kay Alexander. Thanks go to Ray Troyer and Eric Ballinger for the tickets and posters for this event. The Executive has decided to hold a get together for members to watch the closing ceremonies of the Olympic games. This will have a menu of meat or chicken pies (from the Scottish butcher in Brentwood), home made beans, and dessert. Price \$8.00. Sunday, February 28th at 5.30pm. This will be a casual evening. Bring your cushions and celebrate the games.

Please phone Kay Alexander 250-598-4040 to reserve, as we need numbers to order food.

# We're holding a Chinese New Year's Dinner

At the Crystal Jade Restaurant  
801 Vernon Ave, Saanich Plaza  
(click [here](#) for location)

Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 5:30 pm



Tickets \$18.00 (includes taxes & gratuity)  
available  
from Kay Alexander 250-598-4040 or  
Joan Roberts 250-220-3845

Seating is limited so call now to ensure you won't miss out on this buffet style dinner where you get to sample a wide variety of dishes.



Enjoy a great meal with your friends  
celebrating the Chinese New Year  
(the year of the tiger)!

### SMILE CARD UP DATE

Good news! Thrifty Foods have informed us that we have reached our goal of raising \$3000.00 through the Smile Card Program. A big "thank you" to all of you who participated in this fund raising enterprise.

Please hold on to your smile cards. In fact, you may continue to use them but the club will not receive 5% of any funds deposited. Hopefully, we will have our application approved for another project commencing in May. I would hope that those of you who didn't participate in this club effort will consider getting a card and helping in the next campaign. Check out our website for more information on this program.

Marilyn Turpin (250-592-3666) Smile Card Coordinator

### DARTS CLUB REPORT FOR FALL 2009

We have about 40 members of which 20 to 26 usually show up. We have tea, coffee, and goodies on arrival and usually a glass or two later in the afternoon. (Chips are provided).

Come and join us. There is room for 10 or 20 more and you don't have to be a dart player to start. You will soon get better. We play a draw for teams about twice an afternoon. We throw with our off hand into a board. Then the closest to the bull's eye and the furthest away become a team. This is random and a great socialiser.

We have a three in a bed contest: 1X, 2X, 3X in any number. To enter you must have paid 25¢ for each session since the last win. Michael Lum usually wins the pot but when he goes on holiday there are lots of other contenders.

About bi-monthly we have a soup and a bun day. The \$3.00 each pays for our outlay.

Jon Magwood

### RECOGNIZING OUR (often unseen) VOLUNTEERS:

**Bob Akins**, our Games Equipment Manager – for taking several broken rakes to his son's boat works in Nanaimo for arc-welding and needed repair, and for building some new wooden boxes to house our club bowls. (Please treat our rakes with care. They do break!)

**Kay Alexander, Eric Ballinger, Donna Blackstock, Barry Browning, Sandy Coupe, Pat Metcalfe, Mary Lou Richards, Joan Roberts, Annette Thompson and Prim Wood**, for helping to make our Christmas event so enjoyable for over 80 members.

**Barrie Bolton, Linda Cowie, Faith and Jon Magwood, Pamela Potter, Jaymee Sidel, Shelley Sidel, Keith Walker, Marion Woiblet and Prim Wood**, for doing such a good job of coordinating our various winter activities.

**Jim Brown**, for making design changes to the prototype short mat rake. Let's see if we can make it work now that the width has been reduced and the handle has been made adjustable.

**Joan Firkins** – for arranging the purchase and installation of our "Olympic" audiovisual equipment to complete our contract for provincial funding, and for all her hard work in completing our application for a liquor license.

**John Magwood**, Buildings Manager - for obtaining and installing free new paper towel dispensers for our washrooms; and our new hand sanitizers in both buildings. (Feel free to use them liberally to reduce infections.)

**Brian Redding** – for donating a pair of old time lawn bowling woods for display in the clubhouse.

**Rod Richmond** – for putting out and taking in our totes and blue box, now that we are getting Oak Bay garbage pick-up at the end of the Harlow Drive parking lot.

(I know that in recognizing these volunteers we undoubtedly leave out folks who also deserve recognition. If you think someone should be recognized here, please tell your President!)

## CONTRACT BRIDGE

We meet every Monday from 1 - 4 p.m. Sixteen to 20 players have been in attendance each week. It is always an enjoyable afternoon when the cards are friendly! You are welcome to join us. Please do!

Prim Wood, Co-ordinator

### SHORT MAT REPORT – FALL 2009

#### **Division Matches:**

After a fairly rough start with illness and accidents, Divisional play settled down with 12 A Pairs teams, 12 B Pairs teams and 13 Singles players. The winners were:

**A PAIRS:** John Cossom & Lawrie Matheson defeated Harnam Grewal and Joan Firkins, 15 – 14 after an exciting tiebreaker.

**B PAIRS:** Georgia Thorneycroft and Marie Jennings 18 points.  
Donald Robinson and Wendy Barry 15 points.

**SINGLES:** Harnam Grewal defeated John Cossom, 31 – 30 points

#### **Rules:**

All matches were played under the 2009 OB Short Mat Rules, which prohibit the use of "spares" to fill in for a person who finds him/herself unable to reschedule a match. This rule was strictly enforced and gained acceptance by all players.

#### **Changes for the 2010 Winter Session:**

1. The B Pairs will play a double round robin, owing to reduced numbers who have signed up.
2. Two slots per week have been reserved for triples play, organized by Mary Lou Santos-Richards.
3. The visual impact of the Master Schedule has been greatly improved by its author, Keith Morris.

#### **Sidney Triples:**

On Saturday afternoons two teams from OBLBC played in triples matches organized by the Sidney Bowling Club, and were overall "Champions" of the fall session.

#### **Thanks to:**

We wish publicly to thank the following members, without whose help this season's Short Mat programme would have been a disaster.

**Pat Thomas & Jennifer Letkeman:** for answering countless "procedure" questions, refreshments.

**Keith Morris:** for very patiently producing any form of Master Schedule for which I asked.

**Marion Woiblet:** for explaining the game to those who had never played it before.

**Harnam Grewal:** for lavishing tender care on the all-too-chippable yellow jacks, and donating measuring equipment.

Ex-, and current - Presidents **Gary Suter** and **John Cossom:** for prompt advice on any question, and continuous encouragement.

Submitted by Keith Walker on behalf of Barrie Bolton and Jaymee Sidel, Short Mat Coordinating Committee.

## 2009 Novice Champion – Anne Bolton



I was born in Sunderland, County Durham, in 1944 to parents who enjoyed tennis, badminton and cricket. Both my father and grandfather played lawn bowls. Once out of school, I trained as a nurse in Newcastle, and then as a midwife in Middlesbrough and Oxford. One notable event that occurred was when I was called upon to deliver Sir Martin Gilbert's daughter five stories up in Merton College where he was teaching History. Sir Martin is Winston Churchill's official biographer, and one of Britain's leading historians.

On December 9, 1967, I immigrated to Canada to work at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto. I moved to trail BC in October 1969 and met Barrie on a ski trip to Kimberly in February 1970. We married in November that year. Our daughter, Victoria, was born five years later, while our son Chris, arrived five months after we had moved to the 108 Mile Ranch in September 1981.

I worked in Cariboo Memorial Hospital, Williams Lake, for 18 years, commuting 80 km each way every working day. Then a paralysis, resulting from an attack of Guillain-Barré syndrome, forced my retirement. I still play and enjoy tennis, particularly watching Roger Federer, and Kim Clijsters. For many years we skied, and worked with the Marathon and BC Cup ski races in 100 Mile House. After many trips to and from Victoria to visit family, we decided in June 2008 to move here part-time. We met Rod and Margaret Richmond, learned about the Oak Bay Lawn Bowling Club, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Anne Bolton

Some of you may have noticed that an Oak Bay municipal plumber has been busy around our club lately. It all started when a leak sprung in one of the supply lines to the west green sprinkler system. Murray and Howard found that the break was under the concrete walk by Carnarvon House. Allan, the municipal plumber, was consulted and agreed to give us advice and assistance. A municipal crew removed the concrete walk section with a jackhammer. Allan replaced the broken section of plastic pipe and a damaged section next to it. (Until the concrete is re-poured, watch your step when you walk across the wooden cover, toward Carnarvon House.)

Allan then began modifications required to bring our domestic plumbing and sprinkler systems up to code. The water supply to the workshop was disconnected from the irrigation system and now draws its water from the domestic line in Anderson House. A back-flow preventer system had to be installed in underneath Anderson House, and back-flow preventers have been installed on all outside taps.

Yet to be done is the separation of the water supply to the east side gardens on from the Anderson House water line. This new garden irrigation supply will come from a new line to be laid in the east green's south ditch, connected to the main irrigation water system. The municipality installed a back flow preventer on our irrigation system several years ago. So thanks to Oak Bay our plumbing system is now much more up-to-code and efficient.

Howard Turpin.

## MAH JONG

Mah Jong attracts up to a dozen players each week - not a great number, but those who play are very competitive and enjoy their Tuesday afternoons. Vi Berrisford, who is now a Social member, comes nearly every week. Those of us who remember her as a playing member are really happy to see her. Ted Todd, who did not bowl this past season, also enjoys the game and the company.

Marion Woiblet - Co-ordinator

## CRIBBAGE

Cribbage has been in full swing since October. There was great excitement when Marion Woiblet had the ultimate hand. Twenty Eight (28) points - four "5" cards plus one for "his nibs" - the Jack. Congratulations Marion.

We have not had as many people joining us this season. Some of our regulars unfortunately have been unable to return. Everyone is most welcome, and perhaps, after the busy Christmas season, more will come to enjoy a pleasant afternoon. We start at 1.00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Pamela Potter - Co-ordinator

## 2009 Novice Champion – Don Robinson



Uniquely, I was born in Victoria, 13 November 1929. My early life was spent on Tyndall Avenue in Gordon Head amidst strawberry and daffodil fields close to an Army Camp which later became the University of Victoria campus. I attended Gordon Head School, which accommodated Grades 1 to 8 in its two classrooms, and then Mount Douglas High (now Cedar Hill Middle School) on Cedar Hill Road, followed by Victoria College (forerunner of the University of Victoria) situated at Lansdowne Normal School.

I was married to Margaret, and we had four children and enjoyed ten grandchildren. Margaret died in 2004 after we had been together for 52 years.

My employment was as an optician with Prescription Optical Co., which became London Optical and then Iris Optical. I learned the business on the job, and became interested in contact lenses. I fitted all types of lenses – hard, soft and disposable – specializing in hard to fit cases.

Sports influenced my life greatly. I played all sports, especially soccer where I represented Victoria against touring English teams on three occasions. I played softball at Central park in the 1940s and 1950s winning three Provincial and one Western Canada Championships. I curled at Playland Arena in the 1960's, and now curl at Esquimalt in the Men's Senior League.

Widowed and with time on my hands, I agreed to try out lawn bowls at the suggestion of some of my old Gordon Head School friends. Betty and Gerry Emery, my sponsors, with Hal Yardley, helped and supported me through my novice year at the Club. Lawn bowling has been challenging as well as an enjoyable experience.

One highlight was the Dore Cup, my first tournament. My partner - also a novice - and I had not met before. We had no idea what was involved or what we had to do! However, "Ignorance is bliss." We didn't know enough about the game to be nervous, and actually did quite well.

As the year went on with tremendous support from coaches and Club members who answered my many questions, I became more knowledgeable. The next tournament was the Novice Men's Singles at the Club. So anxious and nervous, I won the tournament. A month later, I represented the Club in the BSI Men's Singles Novice Champ of Champs. I did not win though recording four wins and one loss. I really enjoyed the experience.

To all coaches and various Club members who answered my questions and kept me in line with the rules, thank you. I have enjoyed the social and competitive activities in my novice year. To next year's novice bowlers – get involved, and I trust you will have as good a year as I have had. Thanks to all.

Don Robinson

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