

Oak Bay Lawn Bowling Club

Volume XV Issue 1

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

Apr 1st, 2009

President-Gary Suter **1st Vice-President**-John Cossom **2nd Vice-President**-Linda Carswell-Bland **Secretary**-David Roberts
Treasurer-Marion Andrews **Assistant Treasurer**-Joan Firkins **Games**-Helen Kempster **Greens**-Jim Brown **House**-Prim Wood
Member without portfolio-Louise Mason **Past President and Player Development**-Marilyn Turpin **Publicity**-Jim Sidel
Member Services-Dolores Troyer_
Club website: www.bowlsoakbay.ca

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I write this, the weather is still unseasonably cold, and from the view to the west at my computer desk I can see lots of snow showing in the Sooke Hills. It's been a bit of a tough winter, which you might recall forced us to first postpone our Club's Christmas Party due to snow conditions and finally to cancel the event altogether when continued icy conditions made walking treacherous. But now spring is just around the corner - warm breezes with plenty of sun MUST come. The Club's very successful winter activities are winding down; work on the greens including some new backboards is underway; the gardens are showing a bit of colour and we are all getting anxious to get back on the greens. So greet the new season and join me in a special warm welcome to those joining us for the first time!

With the start of the new season there are a few key events you will wish to put in your calendar:

- Semi-Annual General Meeting, Saturday, April 4, 1:30 p.m.
- Open House, Sunday, April 5 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., for your friends, family and the public to find out what our club is all about, and bowling a few ends.
- Season Opening Day, Saturday, April 25, 1:00 p.m.

To help you plan your bowling season, the club has again produced the Members' Information Booklet. Copies should be available for pick up in Anderson House toward the end of March. I wish to thank Henriette and Eric Ballinger for their careful work in the production of this useful document.

Special thanks are also in order to coordinator Shelley Sidel and the other volunteers for running the Winter Activities so well. Speaking of volunteers, our club has been able to thrive and grow through the combined efforts of many people. There is always a need for more volunteers. At the present time we need a person to be in charge of Gardens and several volunteers to help clean Anderson and Carnarvon Houses (the cleaning is only a 6 to 8 hour commitment for the whole season). Please contact Jim Brown at 250-479-8078 about the Gardens, and Lois Badenhorst at 250-384-1143 about house cleaning. Your help is much appreciated.

I wish each one of you much enjoyment in all your club activities.

Gary.

HOUSE REPORT

The 2009 lawn bowling season has finally arrived and the following members have offered to assist:

Conveners for Tea Day & Tournaments

April - Linda Carswell-Bland & Joan Roberts

May - Ronnie Stinson

June - Jennifer Letkeman

July - Kay Alexander

Aug. - Betty Emery

Sept. - Elaine Hasler

Housekeeping

Lois Badenhorst

ALL OF THE ABOVE PEOPLE would love to receive a phone call from you saying "HOW CAN I HELP?"
Looking forward to seeing you out on the greens.

PRIM WOOD

WHO AM I?

Match the names below to the following “Bio-facts”

1. After 50 years as a basketball player, coach, official and team organizer, the last 20 coaching over 150 Victoria boys, I "dribbled away" to more age-appropriate activities!
2. On my first parachute jump I crashed through branches of a huge evergreen tree before arriving unceremoniously on the ground.
3. Once worked part-time as a goat milker, and shook the hand of Pierre Trudeau at a Toronto function, circa 1980.
4. I'm a blue belt in “tae kwon do”
5. I once won a drama prize for my acting prowess as a cockney burglar. I'm still ashamed, as I consider that I was typecast!
6. Unknowingly had dinner with my spouse in a bordello.
7. My work is featured on one of Rogers' Chocolates new Canadian Artist Series chocolate tins.
8. Has been happily playing at OBLBC for the past two years, and considers himself “Just an ordinary fellow.”
9. At age 16 I belonged to a motorcycle club and drove a Harley Davidson in 'club scrambles', hill climbs and mud-splash events. Also in the 50s, I drove an MG TD sports car in ladies racing events at Cassidy Airport.
10. Considers John F. Kennedy a soul-mate because of having three things in common with him:
 - Sailed on the same type of boat as JFK in WW II.
 - Like JFK, has back problems.
 - We were both Presidents (I, of a much smaller entity than he!)

Answers Below

A-Stan Turner B-Bill Topfer C-Henriette Ballinger D-Lois Badenhorst E-Jaymee Sidel
F- Barabara Weaver-Bosson.G-Idris Richards H-Mickey Sendall I-Louise Mason J.-Jim Brown

RED SKELTON'S RECIPE FOR THE PERFECT MARRIAGE

1. Two times a week we go to a nice restaurant, have a little beverage, good food and companionship. She goes on Tuesdays; I go on Fridays.
2. We also sleep in separate beds. Hers is in California, and mine is in Texas.
3. I take my wife everywhere... but she keeps finding her way back.
4. I asked my wife where she wanted to go for our anniversary. 'Somewhere I haven't been in a long time!' she said. So I suggested the kitchen.
5. We always hold hands. If I let go, she shops.
6. She has an electric blender, electric toaster and electric bread maker. She said 'There are too many gadgets, and no place to sit down!' So I bought her an electric chair.
7. My wife told me the car wasn't running well because there was water in the carburetor. I asked where the car was. She told me, 'In the lake.'
8. She got a mud pack, and looked great for two days. Then the mud fell off.
9. She ran after the garbage truck, yelling, 'Am I too late for the garbage?' The driver said, 'No, jump in!'
10. Remember: Marriage is the number one cause of divorce.
11. I married Miss Right. I just didn't know her first name was Always.
12. I haven't spoken to my wife in 18 months. I don't like to interrupt her.
13. The last fight was my fault though. My wife asked, 'What's on the TV?' I said, 'Dust!'

Can't you just hear him say all of these? I love it, these were the good old days when humour didn't have to start with a four letter word. It was just clean and simple fun. And he always ended his programs with the words, “God Bless.”

Grounds, Greens & Gardens

We start the 2009 season with our inestimable pair of Greens Keepers at Large, Howard Turpin and Murray Robertson again leading the Greens Teams.. We have, however, unfortunately lost several team members who after many years of "pitching in" have had to give up. This means we need more volunteers and this year, (after the heavy snow we, like all the other Bowling Clubs, have Snow Mould Fungi), it is that important we recruit them. If you haven't put your name down please consider doing so. The snow mould fungus and the moss that occurs each year have both been treated, but it also means we must pay extra attention through the season will be needed to prevent any further damage. It is for this reason our Greens Keepers want to start the Greens Teams working earlier than in the past - 23 March. It also means we shall have to be extra careful to take care of our greens when playing.

The Gardens Team requires one more member, in addition to a Team Leader.

On a more positive note: The back boards - thanks to many volunteers - have been replaced, except at the time of writing, one side, which weather permitting, should be finished before bowling starts.

The leaky valve has been replaced on the drinking fountain. Not as good as a new fountain but at least we will not get wet feet taking a drink.

Phil Bissell has again stepped-up and will be renovating the benches as soon as the weather allows it.

Thanks to Eric Ballinger's efforts the NO SMOKING signs on the gates have been replaced, as has the timetable for daily draws, which had become totally unreadable, on the Club entry sign. .

New Greens volunteers please call me tel.250-479-8078 or e-mail jandjbrown@shaw.ca

Bowling is our purpose - no greens, no bowling.

Jim Brown

Member Services

The club ended last season with 249 members. Our new membership year begins April 1st, 2009. Please get your memberships in as soon as possible. Eric & Henriette Ballinger will have your Members Information Booklet ready for you at the Semi Annual General Meeting. The new Members' Telephone Book they produce will be out in May. Jennifer Letkeman will again look after the Draw Tags, Lockers & Keys. Gayle Wallach will look after the Stores.

Thanks to Convener Shelley Sidel and the individual Winter Activity coordinators for a job well done!

Remember to tell all your friends about the Open House April 5th and bring your friends and family to the Friday Night Draw.

Dolores Troyer

Answers to "Who am I?"

1.I 2.C 3.B 4.E 5.A 6.D 7.F 8.G 9.H 10.J

CHILDREN'S THOUGHTS ON:

1) NUDITY

I was driving with my three young children one warm summer evening when a woman in the convertible ahead of us stood up and waved. She was stark naked! As I was reeling from the shock, I heard my five-year-old shout from the back seat, 'Mom! That lady isn't wearing a seat belt!'

2) OPINIONS

On the first day of school, a first-grader handed his teacher a note from his mother. The note read, 'The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents.'

3) KETCHUP

A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup out of the bottle. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer the phone. 'Mommy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now. She's hitting the bottle.'

4) MORE NUDITY

A little boy got lost at the YMCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, 'What's the matter, haven't you ever seen a little boy before?'

5) POLICE # 1

While taking a routine vandalism report at an elementary school, I was interrupted by a little girl about six years old. Looking up and down at my uniform, she asked, 'Are you a cop?' 'Yes,' I answered and continued writing the report. 'My mother said if I ever needed help I should ask the police. Is that right?' 'Yes, that's right,' I told her. 'Well, then,' she said as she extended her foot toward me, 'would you please tie my shoe?'

6) POLICE # 2

It was the end of the day when I parked my police van in front of the station. As I gathered my equipment, my K-9 partner, Jake, was barking, and I saw a little boy staring in at me 'Is that a dog you got back there?' he asked. 'It sure is,' I replied. Puzzled, the boy looked at me and then towards the back of the van. Finally he said, 'What'd he do?'

7) ELDERLY

While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my four-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, 'The tooth fairy will never believe this!'

8) DRESSING UP

A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad donning his tuxedo, she warned, 'Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit.' 'And why not, darling?' 'You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning.'

9) DEATH

While walking along the sidewalk in front of his church, our minister heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly made his collar wilt. Apparently, his five-year-old son and his playmates had found a dead robin. Feeling that proper burial should be performed, they had secured a small box and cotton batting, then dug a hole and made ready for the disposal of the deceased. The minister's son was chosen to say the appropriate prayers and with sonorous dignity intoned his version of what he thought his father always said: 'Glory be unto the Father, and unto the Son, and into the hole he goes.'

10) SCHOOL

A little girl had just finished her first week of school. 'I'm just wasting my time,' she said to her mother. 'I can't read, I can't write and they won't let me talk!'