



Potomac NewsFlash

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Have news to share? Let me know. Tired of hearing just my opinions? Write an article. Have a topic? Send it my way.—charrissalin@gmail.com

Upcoming Events:

Turkey skins	Nov 24
Big Spiel	Nov 30– Dec 3
Officiating Clinic	Dec 16
Hangover Spiel	Jan 1

EXTERNAL

Calder (Nflk); Silver Belles (Brmstnes)	Nov 30-Dec 3
10-yr and under (Sch.); Highland Games (Roch.)	Dec 7-10
Cracked Bell (open- Phl)	Jan 4-7
Mitchell (M—Utica); Ben Ames Williams (X—Belfast)	Jan 11-14

Eight-ENDER!

On Friday November 17, 2006, the very first eight-ender in the National Capital Curling Center’s history was scored. The team to go down in history was Mary McHugh, Allen Pickens, Rick Casey, and Tommy Hamilton. This is an historic occasion—similar to, and rarer than, a hole-in-one in golf. It may be a once in a lifetime occurrence; for some of us, it may never even occur!

Just in case you were wondering what needs to be done if you should ever

score an eight-ender—here it is:

To remember this moment, the American Curling Foundation & Museum sends an eight-ender acknowledgement patch to any team that obtains this goal.

In order for you and your teammates to receive an eight-ender patch, there is a quick and easy procedure to follow to register this accomplishment.

First, you need to take two photos of the eight-ender, preferably with the members of the team. Second, send both

photos (hard copy, not electronically) with a small explanation on the date, place, event and team roster to USA Curling, Attn: Bev Schroeder, P.O. Box 866, Stevens Point, WI 54481.

We will then forward your photos and team information to the American Curling Foundation & Museum for registration. The ACF&M will send eight-ender patches for each member of your team. We will also acknowledge the eight-ender in the U.S. Curling News.

A fairly easy process for such a great achievement!



Allen, Tommy, Mary, and Rick (L to R) and their 8 yellow rocks.

A note from Joan Twigg on the Friendship Tour

To all who made a donation toward the purchase of club pins for my Friendship Tour, I want to extend a sincere thank you. I never knew I would exchange so many pins, thank goodness I was advised to be prepared. The Friendship tour has left me with many memories to tell.

A quick note re the tour. As a tour we managed to win more games than the tour six years prior, actually they did-

n't win any. Even with all of Jan Little's tales of her tour, I was really not prepared for the hospitality and warm welcome each of the Manitoba curling clubs gave us. The smallest club was 5 sheets to the largest 8 sheets, in towns where the populations ranged from 3,500 to 40,000. By the way, all the ice was very keen along with a 12 ft swing at one club. We were housed in peoples homes 9 out of 12 nights and this was by far the very best part

of the tour. I can hardly express how wonderful every billet experience was, they were so accommodating, gracious, and eager to hear all about curling throughout the US.

I was amazed that so many of these curlers retired by their early 50's and curl all winter, golf all summer and travel world wide! I was weighing moving to Canada!

Traveling, traveling

This weekend we had two teams at the Harvest Bonspiel in Philadelphia. The Harvest is a mixed bonspiel and this year's theme was Disney-on-Ice. Great fun was had, new and old connections with friends were made, and the weekend saw the return of Carol White and Dave Thompson to the ice—no, they haven't moved to Italy, although that was a great rumor!

For those of you who know some of our old Philadelphia friends—Jan Stahlheber was there and was looking

great; Nancy Ellis also played and is keeping her chin up—although we all miss Don; the Scots were in town and the Finans were up from Florida. Danny and Alice Steiert didn't play in the spiel, but they are curling again. The whole weekend reminded me how much I love the close-knit curling community and how much it feels like an extended family to me. I guess this is why I keep trying to encourage everyone to go bonspieling—so that you can really experience the true spirit of curling!

This season, Potomacians have now spieled at 31% of the GNCC clubs with ice.

Our teams saw good success with Potomac winning the 1st and 2nd events. Winners of the 1st event were Derek Surka, Charrissa Lin, Sean Murray, and Jan Little. Winners of the 2nd event were Dave Thompson, Carol White, Vern Maher, and FL Ettlin.

Ms. Hog Line

Dear Ms. Line -

The other day, rocks from the sheet next to us came flying onto our sheet and knocked a few things around. Whose responsibility is it to make sure this doesn't happen?

Surly on the next sheet

Dear Surly -

This is a great question and one that I hope many pay attention to. When a

team is calling a hit, many rocks may get set in motion. The primary people who should be responsible for "fencing" rocks as they shoot off the sheets are the sweepers on the shooting team. The skip (or vice, whoever is in charge of the house) of either team can also help in this task, but as they may be watching the line very carefully or sweeping rocks behind the tee-line, it is primarily the sweepers' responsibility. All four of those players should be alert to help out as there

may be many things moving. It generally only requires one person to finish a shot (sweep a roll, etc.) so the other sweeper and the two skips should be able to fence all of the moving rocks. Please do take this responsibility seriously, as there are few things more frustrating than having a rock which might need to be measured hit by something careening off of a neighboring sheet. Since it can't be measured, it can't be counted.