90 YEARS STRONG
COSBURN PARK LAWN BOWLING CLUB
1929~2019

Bowling Matters

the Voice of Cosburn Park Lawn Bowling Club

VOLUME 8/3 JUNE 2019

90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS: WHAT'S NEXT?

CANADA DAY is always special at Cosburn Park. But this year it's a bit more so. **We are joining the East York Canada Day Parade!**

Birthday Committee Chair Sandy J and Richard Cripps have some awesome decorating plans. We'll bring on David Marcotte, a certified clown.

Be at the Club for the first jitney at 10 am.

We'll watch the parade go by & cheer extra loud when Cosburn members pass by.

WEAR YOUR CANADA DAY RED & WHITE.

WATCH OUT FOR BIRTHDAY PRIZES & SURPRISES!

WELCOME 23 NEW MEMBERS!

Following our recent Open Houses, local media publicity and TV coverage, about 30 new members have signed up and are having fun on the greens. 23 are listed below, we'll have more in the next issue!

Good Bowling: Adrienne Arnold, Allan Thompson, Beth Scratch, Bob Rusk, Charlotte Nurse, Chris Harron (social member & her service dog, Nellie), Daniel Andres, Dianne Turner, Dom Tiu, Don Smith, Elaine Purdie, Janice Allan, Jasper Rottiers, Karen O'Connor, Lee Scott, Linda Herman, Lynn Frost, Marco Zonni, Michael Dawson, Neil Roszell, Stephen Blundon, Terry Love, Suzanne Bourgeau.

Highlights of District Singles (Hosted by Cosburn)

Cathy Larking (L) with Elaine MacSween.

Three Cosburn women, two from Balmy Beach and one from Kew battled it out for the District 10 Women's Singles title.

In the two-day Round Robin held on June 1 & 2, our Cathy Larking (L), with a score of 21-18, narrowly triumphed over Balmy's Elaine MacSween. Other Cosburn competitors were Leslie Ferries and Mary Lou Richards.

Of 13 men, Cosburnites Richard Cripps, Ron Larking and novice Peter Stuart-Sheppard made an unsuccessful bid for the Men's title. In the semi-final Dave Anderson beat fellow James Gardens member Steve McKerihen.

Many thanks to members who acted as markers and to Ken U, Jan L, Eunice C who kept the players fed and watered during the play-downs weekend. ◆

ONTARIO SINGLES

Cathy Larking finished 4th in the Ontario Women's Singles at Agincourt on June 23. The top five will go to the nationals in August. ◆

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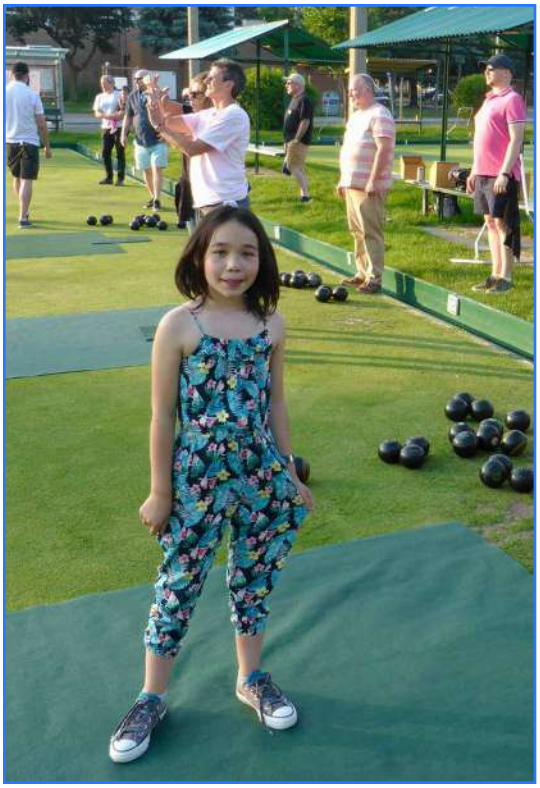
Photos by
Michael Robinson

RAINBOWLERS OPEN HOUSE

On the Wednesday before downtown's Trans March, Dyke March and Pride Parade, Toronto Rainbowlers hosts its own popular Pride event. Hiro Nakajima's (top left, on mat) daughter Kiko (bottom left) joins us each year; Evan Noodin Smith's daughter Daya (bottom right) is a first timer.



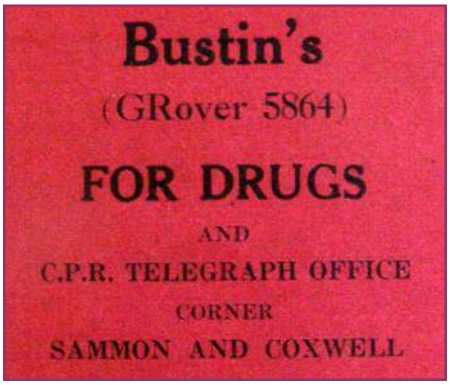
Opening Miss Elsie Livock's Box:

1930 Schedule & Roster Unearthed

By Ann Nicholson ~ Since we published extracts from our 1965 roster, members gave us information that led to an even older, exciting discovery.

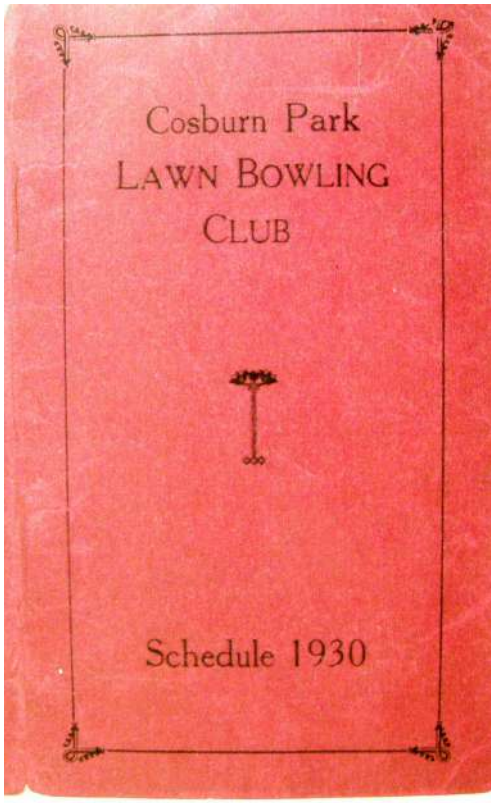
Jan Luke told us: "Some time ago, Elsie Livock's niece donated a box full of historic lawn bowling pictures and documents." Miss E. Livock of 15 Donmore Ave. (the aunt) was listed in the 1965 roster.

Well, after some digging in the basement, we hit the jackpot! We found year-by-year rosters, including **the very first, little red Schedule, dated 1930**. It included advertisements such as the following on the inside cover:



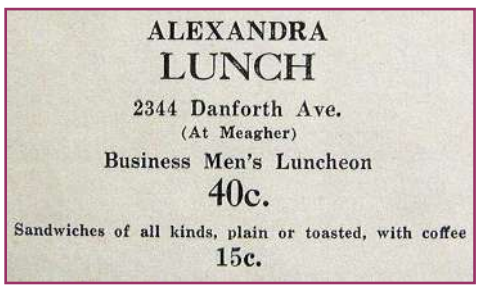
Another ad offers a "Business Men's Luncheon for 40c. or sandwiches of all kinds, plain or toasted, with coffee for 15c." Remember, October, 1929 was the time of the Stock Exchange Crash and beginning of the Great Depression.

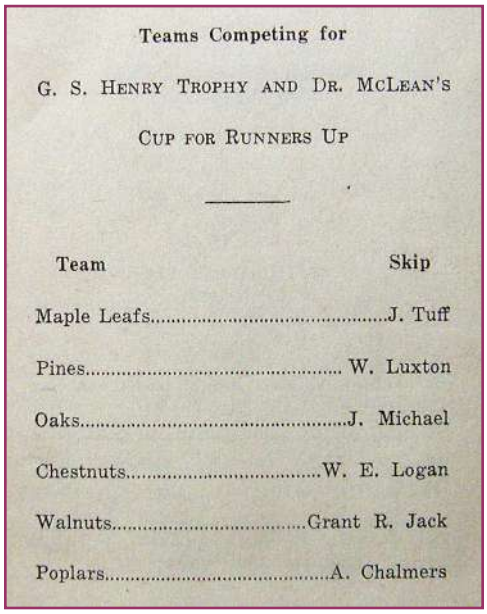
Among the membership of 50 men was a Rev. S. Elliott,



two Doctors: O.L. McCormack and E.C. McLean. Seven women's names were pencilled in the working copy. Officers listed included: three Hon. Presidents; three Hon. VPs, a President, VP, Treasurer, Secretary and Games Committee Chair. Members played on teams named after trees. Rules for the Turner Morgan Trophy for singles seems to be for men only. ◆

For the next few issues of Bowling Matters during our 90th birthday year, we will explore some of the other treasures in Miss Livock's box. If anyone has information to share, please contact me.





Teams Competing for

G. S. Henry Trophy and Dr. McLean's Cup for Runners Up

Team	Skip
Maple Leafs	J. Tuff
Pines	W. Luxton
Oaks	J. Michael
Chestnuts	W. E. Logan
Walnuts	Grant R. Jack
Poplars	A. Chalmers

Tom works on some grass that was killed by a gasoline spill. The Club runs on volunteers; WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Wild Bill

Wild Bill Haskins is taking a short break from disseminating his porch wisdom. ◆

LEGEND OF THE MONTH

Story of a Jitney Bowler

By Murray Fenner, Longest Standing Member of CPLBC ~ I joined Cosburn Park Lawn Bowling Club in 1975 – a few weeks after my parents joined the club. They had to be sponsored to join because the club had reached a membership of over 260.

I drove my parents down to the evening games, so they asked if I could join. The club gladly agreed, as I was under 30.

My father was noted for playing tennis after the evening games. Both my parents and my mother's parents lawn bowled until a year before their death. My grandparents bowled until they were 84, and my parents until they were 85.

Sizing up the Bowls Back Then

My parents inherited my grandparents' bowls. I landed up using my grandfather's bowls, which were old Vitalite size 3 with his initial on them. They were disk bowls when my grandfather got them so they never could be used in tournament play because the disks could be removed and weights inserted to change the draw. I bowled with them for over 30 years and bought my current maroon Tiger bowls about 14 years ago.

My father used my grandmother's bowls, size 4 or 5 which she used in tournaments until the point where they could not be certified because after the 1950s, the equipment for testing them was no longer available in Canada. These bowls had her initials on them, were made in Canada and had a very wide draw. My mother got size 1 bowls. Today she would most likely use a 0 or 00 bowl. In club play, a size 1 bowl was not preferred – being light, it could easily be removed from the head by a heavier bowl. My mother used this in the ladies' games.

As you can see from our clubhouse wall, your skip was most likely a Provincial or Canadian champion or competitive with them. These ladies were better than most of the men skips who liked throwing runners.

Most Club Games Were Fours

When I joined the club most games were fours on all 16 rinks and were jitneys of two 10-end games. Each player paid 25 cents, except for holidays when it cost 50 cents. On holidays we all wore whites. The cash was divided into prize money, based on games and total points. The same team was for both games.

Jack Nebel was games chair and he set up a system for using the greens for fours games. Position-based disks were used for the draw with green and team on the back. The problem was in getting the disks back.

Nailed green mats were used, and one had to be careful that all nails were removed as they caused havoc with the mower. In an attempt to keep the games from lasting too long, the skip placed the jack. Evening games lasted too long for our neighbours, so it was decided to go to two eight-end games and eventually one 12-end game. During my first few years as a member, hand warmers were recommended for evening games in late September and into October.

My Mentor, Provincial Champ, Marg Walford

I received instruction from Marg Walford – setting the mat, correct bias, and aiming at the skip until you could figure out the green yourself. You played in the Monday,

Marg Walford 1987 Provincial Singles Champ.

~ continued on P4

Jitney Bowler ~ *from P3*

Wednesday, Friday and Saturday jitneys. When you felt that you were good enough, you played in the Tuesday and Thursday club games, which consisted of one 12-end game.

Ladies Only: No Men in the Clubhouse

My parents played on Monday and Thursday afternoons. One day was for ladies and another day for men. On ladies' day the men would play on the west green and not use the clubhouse, and the reverse on men's day. The other mornings and afternoons were for greens maintenance.

Later Years

I never participated in tournaments until the in-club trebles was initiated. My interest was in hiking with the Bruce Trail, the Outing Club of East York or backpacking with Willard's Adventure Club.

Eventually club membership declined from the highs of the 1970s. The club ran spring yard sales to raise funds, and Friday evening card games were held during the off-season.

Doris Ralph & Min Price: 1978 Ontario Pairs Champions and Canadian Pairs Gold Medallists. They played 18 consecutive games without a loss. Ten in three different Ontario cities and eight in two different locations in Halifax, against the champions from BC, AB, SK, MB, QC, NB, PE and NS.

My Promotion & Game Chair Mike Mogan's "Board"

I was eventually promoted to vice, then skip. When I was a vice, I usually played skip, since the designated skips were often away playing in tournaments.

As Games Chair, Mike Mogan converted the mechanics of club jitneys to name cards and draws based on the board we use now.

Why I Became a "Southpaw" for a Season

Unfortunately, after the 2018 club yard sale, on my walk home through the valley, I was mugged! Besides giving the mugger the bills in my wallet, I suffered a locked right shoulder. I had to bowl left-handed. In one club fun game it was remarked that: "Murray's left arm bowls are better than his right." Aim and direction were as good with the left as right, except weight control was a problem. Recently my right shoulder has strengthened, and I am now using it. ◆

Murray is a fine photographer and a world traveller. He often joins Road Scholar trips to outlandish destinations. A member of the Don Mills Camera Club, he presently serves as their newsletter editor. Murray worked for Buck Consultants as a programmer of pension and defined benefit systems. He is a lifelong hiker and backpacker, also Scout leader, area commissioner and service team member of Seton Area (East York & Leaside). Before the church closed, Murray also performed in a dinner theatre production staged by Presteign-Woodbine United Church.

Mad Hatters

(L- R) Keith, Peter, Eunice, Bev, Ronan, & Sandy J competed for the Maddest of Hats. The loudest cheers determined the winner. Verdict: Sandy's Sombrero decorated with shiny, pink lawn bowls. Prize: a bottle of Cosburn's 90th Anniversary Barolo!

ERRATA

Sorry, Freda and Judy. In the May edition we thanked the wrong people for making our kitchen squeaky clean the night before Clean-up Day.

Congratulations to: Frank Hibbs, Mike Mogan and Bill Prosser (recently moved to Barrie) for winning the Cannington Investors Group OT on June 6 at Cannington.

Other News: Congratulations to the Willowdale Delmanor MT winners: Dave Carruthers, Mike Mogan, Raji Carruthers.

In a mixed pairs tournament at Leaside, Tom Trattner & Jan Luke were the 2-game winners, 2nd place.

Following The Winners' Trail

Cosburn's Richard Cripps who, with novice Sharon Charbonneau (Kew), won the Balmy Beach Open Pairs One Novice tourney on June 9.

At the same tourney at Balmy, Freda Trattner (L) and Bev Lennox (Novice) came 2nd 3-Hi-Game. Freda says, "It was a great day and Bev was an amazing lead. We won the first two games and played Doug Durno and his partner (from Kew) in a very close game – tied going into the last end and we won on a very close measure.

Thanks to everyone for their support!"

More Winners, a Few Pleasures & a Disappointment or Two

By Richard Cripps ~ Our pool at the **Provincial Men's Fours** in Oshawa on the weekend of June 7-9 comprised the following teams by skip's name: Ken Uyesugi, Mark Sanford, Larry McKellan, Bob Bates, Vince Donohoe.

The team of Frank Hibbs Dave Carruthers, Ron Larking & Ken Uyesugi did not qualify for the quarter finals on Sunday. Their record was 1-3 plus a bye.

My team of Richard Cripps (Cosburn), Gary Butineau (Midland), Glen Patton & Vince Donohoe (Port Credit) went 2-2 plus a bye.

We then had to play two tiebreakers late Saturday afternoon to advance to the quarter-finals on Sunday. We beat Bob Bates and Larry McKellan to advance.

On Sunday morning our opponent in the quarter final was Steve McKerihen (James Gardens). We fought to the end but unfortunately, we were defeated 13-11. Our goal was the same as all the 20 men's teams: to get to Sunday.

What a great weekend! We played some strong teams, made new friendships, and I gained a bit more knowledge of the game that I enjoy playing.

And former Cosburn member Shirley Walker won Bronze with her Women's Fours team from Hanover.

Commiserations to Cosburn's Women's Fours team of Cathy Larking, Mary Lou Richards, Lori Brendel and Elaine MacSween. "They had some close games, but it just didn't go their way this year," Ron Larking told *Bowling Matters*. ◆

District Pairs: Well Done, Cosburn!

It was a different story in the District Men's & Women's Pairs held at Leaside on the weekend of June 15/16.

Our Richard Cripps and Meno Jose won with a final score of 19/17. In the last game, Tom Trattner (seen here with Richard) played in Meno's stead because Meno felt poorly on the last day. We're happy to say, he is now "A-OK" and still qualifies to compete in the Provincials.

Cosburn's Andrea Hampton and Lesley Ferries won the Women's Pairs at Leaside with a score of 25/20. ◆

CONGRATULATIONS

to Mary Hainey, Freda Trattner & Judy Hemming who won District Senior Ladies Trebles at Balmy Beach on June 25. They go to Windsor in 2 weeks for the Provincials.

90 YEARS STRONG
COSBURN PARK
LAWN BOWLING CLUB
Rolling smoothly since 1929

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COSBURN PARK LAWN BOWLING CLUB

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