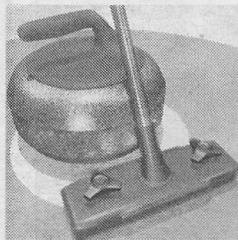


Spiels, Big Breakfast and Christmas Fete



Throwing Rocks

Karen Sotvedt
Middleton
Curling Club

Now the season is fully underway, the calendar at Middleton Curling Club is looking busy in the weeks ahead. This weekend long-time member Carol Romkey took a team of women curlers to the Scallop Spiel in Lunenburg. Although this event is principally for club-level curlers and has no place on the provincial roster, several clubs sent ladies' teams which will be competing in the Seniors and Masters provincial events, giving them a chance to curl together competitively. Middleton's team of Carol Romkey, Gwen Merriam, Nancy Acker, and Karen Sotvedt had not curled together since the same weekend last year, but came first in the "A" division and third overall, and so were very pleased with their result. And the chance to connect with curlers from other clubs was a bonus, especially as Middleton is hosting the Combined Provincial Masters again this year, and can reasonably expect to see some of these teams in that event.

Big Breakfast

This coming weekend, November 19, the club starts a busy day with a Big Breakfast, a recurring community favourite and popular fundraiser for the club. The volunteers for the Breakfast will just have finished their day when another crew moves in to prepare for an afternoon of celebration as the club opens its doors for a 50th wedding anniversary party. The facility often hosts events of this type, not just for members but for others in the community as well. The dining room and bar area are a well-appointed venue and the presence of the ice makes for an interesting backdrop even for non-curlers.



Middleton's team members in the Scallop Spiel in Lunenburg were, from left, Karen Sotvedt, Nancy Acker, Gwen Merriam, and Carol Romkey. They came first in their division and third overall.

Preparations for the club's annual Christmas Fete on December 10 are also well underway, and most days curlers arrive to find the club rooms full of trees, ornaments, paint, glitter, and the club's crafters constructing items for the ticket auction. Closer to the day, the wonderful scent of gingerbread and other Christmas favourites fills the rooms and even tempts curlers on the ice, as the construction of gingerbread fantasies and other baking gets underway. The Fete this year will be a full day of events, starting with a Big Breakfast, as the auction opens, and continuing with a one-day "Funspiel" open to all curlers and also families, friends, and community members who may no longer curl regularly but would like to get back on the ice in a social event

with no pressure, in which everyone wins something. The Funspiel is open to individual curlers and the teams are organized by the club. Each curler gets two six-end games and supper following the prizes. The auction, which has been open all day, continues after supper while a "Draw to the Button" contest goes on. The exciting end to a very busy and happy pre-Christmas day is the draw for the auction prizes.

The entire day is open to everyone in the community. Put December 10 on your calendar and plan to come for breakfast, and to see and bid on the wonderful auction items. If you have an interest in participating in the Funspiel, email curling@middletoncurlingclub.com for more information on how to register.