



The Yellow Jacket

Newport Harbor Lawn Bowling Club

949-640-1022
1550 Crown Dr. North
Corona Del Mar, CA 92625

www.newportharborlbc.com

Chuck Muser
Editor
Jay Coons
Editor Emeritus

June 2009

President's Message



What a grand day it was! During the past 4 years of hosting Open Houses at the NHLBC, this year was indeed in a class of its own. We had a record 249 guests on Saturday, May 9 and since then, 45 people have joined our club. This brings the Class of 2009 to a total of 55 new members and our total club membership now stands at 185. I

knew it was going to be a busy day when **Joyce Smith** arrived early that morning on a bus from Park Newport with 20 plus people on board. At our peak, we had 150 souls on the greens all at the same time, trying their hand at this sport called lawn bowling. It was truly a sight to behold. When they weren't bowling, they were consuming lots of pizza along with salad, cake and assorted beverages. Thanks again to everybody who not only helped us get ready but assisted our guests during our 2009 "Saturday on the Green" Open House.



Now the fun ends and the work begins. Trying to quickly train and integrate our new members into our club is not an easy task. Our Hosts have been busy acquainting our new members with the club house and bowling routines while **Ray Norris** and **John MacDonald** successfully completed two classroom sessions about the game of bowls and the strange terms we use on the greens. We now offer group lessons every Tuesday and Saturday at 10 a. m. for the benefit of our new members and on Sunday, May 31, we will have the first of two "New Members Only" games followed by a BBQ in which

everyone is welcome. The second game for new members will be on Saturday, June 27.

With so many new faces, we would like to ask everyone to please wear their name tags when at the club and also introduce yourselves when you see a stranger. Like the day most of us joined the club, our new members are eager to learn and will welcome any help that you can give them about our club and the game of bowls. Please be patient while they are trying to figure thing out over the next several weeks.

As you probably noticed, our greens have suffered a set back due to an error made by an outside contractor we hired to spray weed killing chemicals on our greens several weeks ago. We are slowly but surely making a comeback, so again, please be patient. Thanks again to all of you who have been helping out with the tedious task of pulling weeds and planting new grass cores.

Congratulations to **Jan Hargraves** and **Maryna Hyland** who brought home a Bronze Medal in the Women's Fours competition at the Atlantic Rim Championships in South Africa. They, along with club members **Dee McSparran**, **Ivan Hyland** and **Charlie Herbert**, were part of "Team USA" during this two week World Bowls Event in Johannesburg.

On Saturday, June 6 we will be hosting another Private Party. During this catered affair, our guests will be in need of some help with the basic techniques of lawn bowling. If you can help out, please sign up at the outside bulletin board or see **Jan Hargraves**.

Finally, our President's Cup Doubles Tournament for NHLBC members will be held on Sunday, June 7. Again, sign up at the outside bulletin board or see **Tom Hargraves** for more information.

Have a Great Summer!
John Groothuis

New Member Class Well Attended

By Ray Norris and John MacDonald

Nearly three quarters of our 2009 new members attended the new **How To Play The Game Basics** course. Some 33 new members took this two hour course on the rules and etiquette of the game. In addition to the rules, topics included flow of the game, positions and duties, hand signals, terminology, mat placement, jack placement and centering, scoring and measuring, etc. This course presents a lot of new material to these students that they couldn't possibly retain from one session. As they come and join the club in social

bowling, they will quickly encounter most of the course material in play and, hopefully, will recall hearing about from this course. This should speed up their learning curve. We encourage our veteran members to continue teaching and encouraging new members when they meet them on the greens. Each attendee was given a copy of the course slides so they can review the material again as they play and learn this game.

Attendance at the two upcoming **New Member Mixer Games** is further indication of the commitment of our new members to active membership. Twenty four have registered for the first New Member Mixer on Sunday May 31st. So far 14 are registered for the June 27th Mixer.



Trying out the sport on Open House Day

Welcome New Members:

(April & May)

**Dixie Allen
Sandy Bauer
Barry Behrstock
Syd and Sonya Buck
Jack and Yvanne Cannon
Peter and Ruth de Carteret
Franko Cornella
Melanie Cornijo
Jim Cutler
Gary Dreyfus
Marty Flink
Nathalie Goldstein
George Koehler
Doug O'Keefe
Margaret Lindroth
Don and Bev Macke
Gino Marinelli
Bob Marshall
Eleanor Masley
Darrell Pash
Tally Penhall
Jeff Pohlig
Brian and Carolyn Quadt
Don and Johanna Ramsay
Adrienne Rosen
Lenora and Diana Siciliano
Sharon Silcock**

**Richard and Carol Smith
Scott Templin
Sarah Wall
Janice Wallace
Dan and Nancy Worthington
Ken and Karen Young
Bob Young**

Open House A Success

As most of you know by know our annual Open House held on May 9th was a rousing success, according to an enthused **John Groothuis**. As of last count we have had 45 new members join as a result of the effort and, perhaps just as importantly, a record breaking 249 people came to the event, which means 249 people exposed to our sport. That can only be good, in the Yellow Jacket's humble opinion.

The day began in an auspicious manner when a whole busload of people pulled up at the gate. That's right, a busload (OK, so it was a small bus). It seems that an enterprising **Joyce Smith** arranged for a bus to bring a bunch of her fellow Park Newport tenants to check us out. We are told that there might be an investigation as to what tactics were used to get that many people on the bus, but we suspect it will be found that it was just Joyce's charm which did the trick.

The only hitch in the smooth running event was that we kept running out of pizza. John reports that we ended up consuming fifty pies before the day was done. We kept running out of empty rinks from time to time during the day too, but that was minor. The group of club members tapped to be instructors were kept active all day (except perhaps when a pizza delivery arrived).

Probably though, the most busy members were those in the crew assigned to greet and check in the throng of visitors. At times the gate area was jammed with people, but still, no one was turned away. All in all we're thinking that we can all be justified in feeling right proud of all the effort and its fabulous success. A well "done" to all from the Yellow Jacket staff!

Member News

By Ray Norris

Our hopes and prayers go to **Marion Compton** as she battles inoperable cancer. She asks for no visitors as she is suffering from her chemo treatments and is in some pain. Marion is at her daughter's home.

Great to see **Ed Casselman** back visiting on Thursday Pot Luck. Ed is unable to bowl but likes to come with **Eula** on Thursday evening and share our great pot luck meals.

Best news for last. **Emily Carpenter** has been told that she is now cancer free. Emily has been bowling regularly since her recovery from treatments.

The Sporting Scene

Michael Siddall, teamed up with Santa Barbara's Loren Dion, took first place in the 39th Annual Disney Pairs held at Beverly Hills LBC May 23rd through 25th. Third place went to **Charlie Herbert** and **Ed Quo**. Other Newporters bowling were **Eva Lee**, **Robert Alessi**, **Dee McSparran** and **Tanya Hills**.

Travels With Zachary In Search Of Iowa

By Chuck Muser

[Editor's note: I'm asking for your indulgence here. As you've noticed, from time to time we've run stories which are not about bowling, but which tell us something personal about our members. This is one of those, but I'm writing it about myself]

Any of you who are John Steinbeck readers might feel that the title of this piece seems familiar. In the 1960s Steinbeck wrote a wonderful little book called "Travels With Charlie In Search Of America." Steinbeck took off in a camper to travel around the country's highways and byways looking for the America not found in regular writing. Traveling with him was his poodle, Charlie. I figured that this little story was close enough to Steinbeck's adventure to allow me to steal his title, with some modification.

As you read this Sue and I, and our reluctant cat Zachary, are in Iowa. We took off in our motor home, a bit more luxurious version of Steinbeck's camper, on May 15th and ambled across California, Arizona, New Mexico, the Texas panhandle, Oklahoma, and Kansas, to get to our friend's home in Ankeny, Iowa. I say ambled because we drive 300 or so miles, stop for a couple of nights, and then drive another 300 miles, and so on. It took us eleven days to get to Iowa. The first part of this was written while we were in a KOA in Tucumcari, New Mexico, our third stop. Sue was lying on the couch reading and Zach was asleep in his bed, a large pet traveling cage. The door is always open and, when we're stopped, that's home base.

I say "reluctant cat" because Zach would much, much rather be sleeping on our bed at home in Irvine. If he had a vote in the matter, he would never spend another minute traveling in the motor home, but, life being what it is, he doesn't have a vote.

When we're actually driving Zach rides in a small bed lying on the passenger's lap. Every once in a while, especially when we first start in the morning, he'll let out a yell or three just to let us know what he thinks of the whole situation. Every time we stop, for calls of nature and lunch, he heads for the



back, apparently looking for a way out, or perhaps for a place to hide.

Once we get set up in a campsite he's ready to get out. We take him out on a leash, and he learned the drill pretty quickly on his first such trip (this is his fourth). I get the leash out and stand by the couch and he jumps up and stands still while it's put around his neck. Then it's out the door to explore. Unfortunately, Zach has become somewhat timid in his old age (he's all of three years old) so noises, especially diesel noises, will send him scurrying for the motor home.

Besides the fact that we don't want to leave Zach home, the reason we

drive rather than fly, a much cheaper way to get there, is that we like to see the country. This is the first time we've taken this route and have found the scenery breathtaking, especially across northern Arizona and New Mexico. There are beautifully sculptured, varicolored, cliffs and buttes, and mile after mile of rugged high desert landscape. Then, once we got into the Texas Panhandle and Oklahoma, the land turned into rolling green hills dotted with forests. So, was Zach as impressed as we were? Not a bit of it. Occasionally he might look out if we pass a particularly noisy truck, but mostly he just dozes. Even when we passed grazing pronghorns, he dozed.

Later in the trip, in Salina, Kansas, at our last campground before getting to our friends home, he decided that he needed to get out more so he overcame his timidity enough to go on a couple of long walks. Walking with a cat on a leash is

an interesting experience, nothing like walking a dog. Zach wanders, sniffing clumps of grass, looking up at birds in trees, and other aimless endeavors. The person on the other end of the leash, usually me, wanders along hither and yon. One thing Zach always does, though, is keep our motor home in sight, just in case a diesel comes by.

NHLBC CALENDER FOR JUNE 2009

Weekly Club Social Bowling

Mondays	Evening Bowling	6:30 PM
Tuesdays	Afternoon Bowling	1 PM
Thursdays	Afternoon Bowling	5 PM (Bring a Dish)
Saturdays	Morning Bowling	10 AM
Sundays	Afternoon Bowling	3 PM (Bring an Appetizer)

Call 949-640-1022 30 to 60 minutes before bowling begins and give your name and membership number.

Group Lessons

Tuesdays, 10 AM to Noon	Saturdays, 10 AM to Noon
Jan Hargraves, Instructor	John Groothuis, Instructor

Private Lessons (By Appointment Only)

Bill Day	949-554-4256	waday1013@gmail.com
Ted Farfaglia	949-223-6033	tednalba@earthlink.net
John Groothuis	949-230-1957	johnhalina@aol.com
Jan Hargraves	949-640-6049	mavericktj@roadrunner.net
Charlie Herbert	949-701-0843	cfh1@aol.com
Chuck Muser	949-857-4742	mactavish@cox.net
Jim White	949-646-0049	thebaron@sbcglobal.net
Dee McSparran	949-218-6298	lynnlaw@cox.net
Tibor Kozma	714-549-3749	tkozma@ca.rr.com
Pauline Kozma	714-549-3749	tkozma@ca.rr.com

Special Events at NHLBC

June 6 - Saturday	Private Party	1 to 9 PM
June 7 - Sunday	President's Cup Doubles Tournament	All Day
June 9 - Tuesday	Board Meeting	9:30 to Noon
June 12 - Friday	Private Party	3 to 9 PM
June 13-14, Sat./Sun.	US Play Downs, Men	All Day
June 16 - Tuesday	Private Party	4 to 8 PM
June 20-21, Sat./Sun.	US Play Downs, Women	All Day
June 26 - Friday	Coast League	All Day
June 27 - Saturday	New Member Bowling and BBQ	3 to 8 PM

