



The Yellow Jacket

Newport Harbor Lawn Bowling Club

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Chuck Muser
Editor

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Editor Emeritus

June 2010

President's Message



Hello fellow members. As I mentioned to you, in last month's message, on June 1st I will return to my position as Vice President and **Ted Faraglia** will take over as President. Ted returned from Italy a few days ago and is working at getting back in step with Pacific Daylight Time and catching up on Club doings in his absence. He is already involving himself in Club affairs and I must say, "I am very impressed". Ted is going to be a wonderful leader. This will be my last column but I'll still be around working toward greens perfection and any other tasks that Ted has for me.

On the subject of changes, **Chuck Muser**, who has produced our **Yellow Jacket** news letter for the last eighteen months, has informed us that he will be stepping down, in order to let someone else have shot at it. Chuck has quietly done a fabulous job, with little assistance and far too little recognition. Anyone who would like to take this important assignment please let Ted know of your interest. Both Chuck and **Jay Coons** will, no doubt, be available to advise and assist a new editor and chief.

Our annual Open House was a huge success - - - Kudos to the committee of **Myrna Chan, Len Cormier, Don Stewart, John Groothuis** and the many member volunteers. At last count we entertained 272 guests and so far have signed up 50 new members, many of them younger than in the past couple of years. I will leave it to others to fill in the details and follow-up activities.

Our rejuvenated ditches and plinths were a much needed improvement to our greens. The cost was very reasonable but still a drain on our treasury. An increasingly important revenue source is the private parties that we are

able to book throughout the year. As our calendar fills, along with the U.S. open tournament that we are hosting this summer, our need for member volunteers to work these many functions has grown substantially. Please watch for sign up sheets on the bulletin board and participate as you can.

On the June 8th election day our club house will be used as a polling place, meaning that the election officials will be setting up on Monday the 7th. The club house will then be sealed and off limits overnight. On Tuesday Election Day there will be access to the greens and restrooms, but we must not disturb the polling place and its workers, in any way. **John MacDonald**

A Grand Success

By Myrna Chan and Len Cormier IV

Our Open House 2010 "Island Theme" was a great success and good fun for all. We welcomed 272 guests through our gates and signed up 42 new members on the spot. We raised \$5250. We will have an expense report later, but we're certain we came in way under our budgeted \$900. We expect more to join in the coming weeks. We honor the Open House special rate of \$125 (for the remainder of 2010) through the end of May.

Here are a few highlights: 60 Members came out and volunteered their time wearing Hawaiian Shirts. It was a party before we even welcomed our first guest! Hawaiian décor was used throughout the club (**Cathie MacDonald**, our resident decorator did a fabulous job).

We did not have any newspaper ads. In the past our local paper donated the ad space, this year they didn't. So we went without and welcomed more guest than ever. The banners seem to get us the most visitors. We asked visitor at registration how they found us. The

break down is as follows; 45% Club Banners, 24% Friend/Member, 10% Flyer and 11% other.

Kids got a lesson from our uber-patient member **Pauline Kozma** and her team of instructors. Once they were bored with bowls, it was off to the Coloring Contest. Coloring contest was a picture of the Jolly Bowler. Kids designed him a new uniform. When they were done; side walk chalk. We kept them busy so their parents could enjoy their own lessons. Key to the kid's area was my little sister Melissa; she's 30 and the best kid-occupier around! Prizes were donated by Too Sweet candy store on Balboa Island.

Everyone could enter the free raffle. Prize was donated by Classic Kids Photography on Balboa Island (one sitting and an 11x 14 print) a \$499 value! **Ray Norris** came up with the idea to start a pool. Members would put a dollar in and try to guess how many guests we welcomed during Open House. Every person who came through our gate was greeted by a greeter and immediately taken over to registration to ensure capture! Ray tried to close the gate after 161 and I was told I couldn't count dogs as part of my 506. The Open House registration totaled 272. The Open House Lottery was won by **Martin Wood** with a guess of 273. He won \$67. It was so much fun, we'll definitely be doing this again next year.

Hot Dogs were served by grill masters; **Gary Fischer, Shep Sheppard** and **Jim Altobelli**. Gary got his local Fresh & Easy to style him with an incredibly outrageously good deal on the food. Drinks were soft or water.

Certificates of Completion were given to all who took lessons. On the back were our social bowling hours and club information, in case they wanted to try it again. We got this idea from Alhambra LBC. Thanks Alhambra!

It is the willingness, the generosity and the work of our members that make this event a success.

[Editors Note: While the success of the Open House was certainly helped along by the work of the assembled members, it was due mainly to the excellent organizing skills and hard work of **Myrna** and **Len** again this year. The club thanks them profusely.]



From top: **Jim Altobelli**, the onion guy. The crew gets the grounds ready. **Len Cormier** signs them up. Barmaids **Jane Wood** and **Gloria Montes**. Chef **Shep Shepard** and helpers **Ziba Askar** and **Dee McSparran**. Busy Greens. Registering crew **Halina Groothuis**, **Darlyne Hilliard**, and **Ibby Gerner**.

President's Cup Pairs

The second of the three President's Cup club tournaments, the Pairs, was bowled Thursday, May 6th. Although a small turnout, there was spirited bowling between the members in the three 12 end games. It was finally won by the team of **Tibor Kozma** and



George Petyo, after some close bowling. No team won all three games, although the winning team came close by winning two and tying one.

Second was taken by **Jerry Grady** and **Dave Phillips** and third, by **Bob Carpenter** and **Len Cormier III**. As usual the teams were set up by a blind draw, as were the selection of opponents.

The last of the President's Cup events, the Singles, will be held June 17th. You can sign up at the clubhouse. This is the most grueling of the three tournaments, being three 16 point games, that is, the bowler who reached sixteen points first wins the game.

The Sporting Scene

With the coming of spring and summer the tournament season is heating up. We'll begin this roundup with an event that happened in April, but was finished too late to make the May edition of the Yellow Jacket, the 2010 Southwest Division Open. It was bowled on the Santa Anita greens during the week of April 22 through 29 and, as usual, Newport Harbor's depth of good bowlers showed in the results.

Sixteen teams battled in the women's triples and the event was won by a team on which **Anne Nunes** was bowling. Second in that championship flight was taken by a team skipped by **Linda Jahraus**, and forth place by a team on which **Jan Hargraves** bowled. The 2nd flight was won by a team skipped by **Maryna Hyland**.

In the women's pairs competition, with twenty two teams, second in the championship flight was taken by a team with **Tanya Hills** bowled. The 2nd flight was won by a team with **Anne Nunes** bowling, while the 4th flight was won by a team skipped by **Jan Hargraves**, and second was taken by a team skipped by **Eva Lee**.

In the men's triples first in the championship flight was taken by a team led by **Charlie Herbert**, third was taken by the team of **Mert Isaacman**, **Brad Parker** and **Rob Kost**, and forth was garnered by a team on which **Jerry Grady** bowled. The 3rd flight saw second place awarded to a team on which **Tony Baer** bowled, and the 4th flight was won by a team on which **Brian Stewart** bowled.

In the pairs, forth in the championship flight was taken by a team on which **Joe Regan** bowled, the 3rd flight was won by a team skipped by **Charlie Herbert**, the 4th flight was won by a team led by **Ivan Hyland**, and the 5th flight was won by a team on which **Bob Nunes** bowled.

Finally, in the men's singles, second in the championship flight was taken by **Joe Regan**, and forth by **Tony Baer**.

A few days later, on May 1st, the Groves LBC held its annual Mixed Triples competition, and it was won by the team of **Bob Nunes**, **Eva Lee** and **Anne Nunes**. Second was taken by a team on which **Tanya Hills** bowled, and third was taken by the team of **Gary Fischer**, **Jerry Grady** and **Sharon Grady**. Other Newporters bowling were, **Patty Lucas**, **Dale Lucas**, **Shep Sheppard**, **Jim Hempe**, **Ivan Hyland**, **Maryna Hyland**, **Simon Meyerowitz**, **Linda Jahraus**, **Jan Hargraves**, **Phil Luth** and **Joe Regan**.

The next day the Oxnard LBC held its annual Amador Martinez Triples, and second place was awarded to a team on which **Brian Stewart** and **Don Stewart** bowled.

On May 15th the Laguna Hills LBC held the Jean MacAuley Mixed Triples. On the A green, a team with **Gary Fischer** and **Dee McSparran** bowling took second, and third was awarded to the team of **Michael Siddall**, **Jerry Grady** and **Sharon Grady**. On the B green, third place went to the team of **Jim Hempe**, **Tanya Hills** and **George Petyo**. Other Newporters participating were **Eva Lee**, **Simon Meyerowitz**, **Robert Alessi**, **Charlie Herbert**, **Cathie Herbert**, **Mert Isaacman**, **Bob Montes**,

Gloria Montes, **Rita Greenberg**, **Tony Greenberg**, **Ed Quo**, **Shep Shepard**, **Don Stewart** and **Dave Price**.

A week later Laguna Hills hosted the Murray-Allison Singles. On the Murray green the competition was won by **Michael Siddall** and second was taken by **Brad Parker**. The Allison green contest was won by **Ed Quo**. Other NHLBC bowlers participating were **Joe Regan**, **Robert Alessi**, **Ivan Hyland**, **Kelly Warren**, **Bob Nunes**, **George Petyo**, **Gary Fischer**, **Brian Stewart**, **Charlie Herbert** and **Tony Baer**.

That same day the annual Chris Hyland Family Triples was held on our greens. The event was won by a team on which **Anne Nunes** bowled, and third was taken by a team on which **Maryna Hyland** and **Dee McSparran** bowled. Other Newporters were **Linda Jahraus**, **Eva Lee**, **Jan Hargraves**, **Tanya Hills** and **Mert Pambianco**. And thus endeth the roundup.

June Birthdays

Maxine Zeidman	1-Jun
Richard Gould	1-Jun
Matt Lyons	2-Jun
Mary Shandy	3-Jun
Don Ramsay	5-Jun
Sharon Grady	5-Jun
Robert Alessi	7-Jun
Brad Pomeroy	8-Jun
Bob Carpenter	9-Jun
Grace Dove	10-Jun
Carol Smith	11-Jun
Tibor Kozma	11-Jun
Ziba Askar	11-Jun
Don Stewart	12-Jun
Pauline Kozma	14-Jun
Joe Regan	19-Jun
Jim Cutler	22-Jun
Ross Melin	22-Jun
Jasmine Chang	23-Jun
Linda Renkus	23-Jun
Jeff Pohlig	24-Jun
Chuck Muser	29-Jun

Fun Bowls and BBQ

Saturday June 5

Two 11 end Triples Games
(Blind Draw)

A Green (Veterans)

B-Green (New Bowlers)

Check In 9:30

Bowl at 10

\$10

Includes greens fees and food
(Bring Your Lunch)

Hamburgers Afterward

NHLBC CALENDAR FOR JUNE 2010

Weekly Club Social Bowling

Mondays	Evening Bowling	6:30 pm
Tuesdays	Afternoon Bowling	1:00 pm
Wednesday	Morning Bowling	10:00 am
Thursdays	Afternoon Bowling	4:00 pm (Bring a Dish+ Games)
Saturdays	Morning Bowling	10:00 pm
Sundays	Afternoon Bowling	3:00 pm

Call (949-640-1022) 30 to 60 minutes before bowling begins. Give your name and number.

Special Events at NHLBC

Thursday June 3	Board Meeting	2 pm
Saturday June 5	Fun Bowls and BBQ	All Day
Saturday June 12	U.S. Singles Playdowns	All Day
Sunday June 13	U.S. Singles Playdowns	All Day
Thursday June 17	President's Cup Singles	All Day
Saturday June 19	U.S. Singles Playdowns	All Day
Sunday June 20	U.S. Singles Playdowns	All Day
Sunday June 27	SWD Novice Singles	All Day

World Cup Singles 2010 – Australia

By Dr. Robert Vickster

As the sun sets on another special day in Australia, it's my pleasure to give you the facts on what's transpired over the past 10 days at the amazing Warilla Bowls Club, just 90 min's South of Sydney.

As many of you are aware, Newport Harbor's own Dee McSparran and Michael Siddall were selected to represent the USA in the annual World Cup Singles event at the famed Warilla Bowls Club. The venue is nothing short of heavenly with their 4 immaculate outdoor greens running 15 seconds, their bars, restaurants and hundreds of poker machines as well as their crown jewel – A 16 second, large indoor carpeted green that is near perfection!

Dee and Michael flew in a couple days prior to the event to acclimatize and get the unfamiliar surface down. They felt good going into the prestigious tournament, which would include 22 global countries of fierce competitors and two tough Aussies in the men's division (since Leif Selby was last year's automatic returning champion.) Sadly, a number of countries including Spain, Ireland, England, Netherlands, Jersey and Scotland were not able to make the trip due the Icelandic Volcano Ash incident...Quite sad.

Both our players had very impressive runs! Let's start with Dee, who upon arrival, borrowed a set of Dreamlines and was stroking from the get go! She met Karen Murphy from Australia in her first match, who's basically a professional and is playing at her home club of Warilla. Dee lost the 1st set and played a truly amazing 2nd set. So amazing that she deserved the win as she had an opportunity to draw a close shot with the last bowl of the 9th end to win it and force a 3 end tie-break, but missed by inches and tied Karen at 8-8. Regrettably, a tie was all Karen needed to win the match.

Dee moved on and played a solid match vs. Japan. In fact, she was close to defeating her in straight sets, but lost the 2nd by a single shot. Japan played some big bowls in the tie-breaker and Dee, all of a sudden, found herself down game with only a single Dreamlines left in her holster! She reared back and played a lovely backhand semi-running shot (or shall we say "sexy-bender" coined from Ashton-Phillips and Siddall back in '99.) Dee reached and removed the shot wood and then moved the jack over to her bowl for the match as the crowd went wild!

It was nice that Dee and Michael's games were never simultaneous so they could watch and root each other on throughout. Yells of "Come on Newport" were heard from the stands when Dee made another magical shot. This reporter overheard more than a few Aussies exclaim: "Rhode Island?" which I replied: "No, Southern California my friends!"

Dee continued her winning ways with very well-played matches against Thailand (and the impressive Metta Jennison who actually lives near Warilla and has played in the event 4 years in a row now) as well as Malta and Ruthy Gilor from Israel! This final match was very special to Dee for a variety of reasons. First, Ruthy is a dear friend of Dee's, secondly, she's quite a bowler and has won some major championships around the globe and lastly, it's always a tough task when you know your opponent has more experience, possibly more ability and is just a real force to be reckoned with! Dee was victorious in a tie-breaker set and was understandably and deservedly ecstatic!

This set-up a very interesting scenario, Dee was tied for first place in her section with one more match to be played. If she won, she would have a playoff for one of the final four semi-final slots, which would be televised throughout Australia! One minor detail though, she would face one of the finest players in the game in Val Smith from New Zealand. Regrettably, she lost that match as Val was "on fire" wanting desperately to return to form after her previous night's loss to Malta.

Dee can, no doubt, hold her head high as she finished 4-2 and placed solidly in 7th position out of 21 countries – Really well done Dee!

Now onto Michael's journey.

Michael brought his new granite-color Taylor Redline SR's and found that they were perfect for the speedy conditions. In fact, he noted that they were the most popular bowl there with many global champions using them. He started with a real solid, straight-set victory against the young and talented Hong Kong player. He then played a match against Zvika Hadar from Israel who couldn't play ANY better in the 1st set..."An amazing display of bowling" Michael stated after the match. Michael was up in the 2nd set 7-4 with two ends to play, but again, Zvika played a brilliant shot with his final wood on each of the last two ends for big-time conversions and the win at 8-7.

Michael regrouped for a huge match against New Zealand's legendary and #4 ranked player in the world, Ali Forsyth. Note that Michael defeated Ali in Malaysia last October at the A/P Games, so he knew Ali's attention would be laser-like. Michael was playing well, but Ali was hitting everything he threw and won the 1st set. Michael was able to turn it up even a notch higher and before you know it, Ali missed a couple key weighted shots here and there. The sets were tied at one each. Relentless, Michael played some amazing shots to win all 3 ends of the tie break and after had to immediately head down to the beach to make a call to his pal Loren after this big match!



victorious and Val Smith (NZ) vs. countrywoman and defending champion Jo Edwards. Jo would win that semi and eventually beat Karen in a truly exhilarating woman's final match!

All in all, it was a fantastic 10 days filled with good times with each other, many new friends and memories to last a long time! I believe Dee and Michael hope to return next year and build on what they've learned and achieved (not to mention to continue and extend the winning ways a bit further!)

[Editors Note: Dr. Robert Vickster is a pseudonym used by Michael Siddall]

Michael continued his run and excellent play with "coast to coast", full-length jacks and defeated United Arab Emirates, a tough Malaysian representative as well as a young India player who was turning some heads. All of a sudden, in the final stages of the round-robin with a 5-1 record, Michael was atop the leader-board in his section for this time of the week. Everyone knew that one more victory would send him into the final 4 semis! But, **a man from Singapore would stand** in his way and would come out to play a great first set. Michael was having trouble matching line and weight for the 1st time of his 12 previous sets and lost 3-8. He knew the match could still be won if he could just return to form. That he did, by blitzing the next set 19-3 to force a tie-break. Michael played a lovely draw to capture a one on the 1st end. He looked to be in position to score on the 2nd end with two bowls a mere 10" away on the full-length distance, when all of sudden, Singapore dropped a bomb and buried the white – A truly exceptional shot! Michael tried hard with a slight-overweight bowl to sink the white in the ditch for a three and basically the match, but to no avail. Singapore also captured the final end with a great back-toucher for the match.

Michael realized he might still be ok for the semis or at least the 3 person round-robin playoff to make the final semi spot, but had to check what happened in the other two matches in his section. Shockingly, both Israel and Malaysia, positioned below Michael, won their matches in straight_sets to leapfrog him, an amazing outcome and "harsh reflection" to a great run. So, with 3 in the semis and 3 in the round-robin, Michael would finish in 7th out of 22 countries with a 5-2 record. I know for a fact that it was tough for him to swallow being so close to at least a bronze medal and who knows what else, but that's bowls and, always a good thing. He understood and moved on quite quickly, considering.

Canada's Vince Mai won the men's playoff to reach the semi-finals against Australia's Leif Selby, the latter would go on to win that match and eventually the tournament for a second straight year. The other semi was Anthony Keipe from Australia over Malaysia. The ladies semi was Allison Merrien (Guernsey) vs. Karen Murphy (Australia) who was

Lawn Bowling In Paradise (The Other Paradise)



See if you can spot the Newport Harbor LBC members



According to our spies this is a game once played by the natives in Hawaii. It's billed as "similar" to lawn bowling. They once used a breadfruit or a stone, but now use a disk. We think it looks harder, but it seems that Len has it mastered.

The Yellow Jacket thanks **Myrna Chan** and **Len Cormier** for the photographs, and wishes Myrna a Happy Birthday.