

SANTA BARBARA LAWN BOWLS CLUB

ON THE JACK

FEBRUARY, 2013



Hello – from the President:

This month I would like to make some comments on the game, starting with the role of the skips. We all like to chat as we play but we should pay attention to our leads and vices when they are on the mat and give them directions. This will help them to know where all their teammates' bowls are and how many points they have. This will improve their skill levels.

Leads and vices: when it is your turn to bowl, be ready. After you release the bowl, stay on the mat and watch the track your bowl takes until it comes to a stop. This will let you know what adjustment you need to make on your next bowl. We have copies of a training DVD in the clubhouse. Ask me and I will let you borrow it, take it home to study. When you play in a tournament you are representing your club and it would be good to let other clubs know we are trying to be professional.

Happy bowling everyone and I'll see you on the greens.

Tony

Tournament News:

Our first tournament of the year is coming up soon. Saturday, March 2, will be the Veteran-Novice Tournament. Announcements will be at 9:15 and play will begin at 9:30. There will be three 8-end games so bring some lunch, wear your whites and come on out to enjoy the tournament.

Lucy will have a sign-up sheet on the board very soon. This is a pairs tournament consisting of one veteran (over 2 years of play) and one novice (less than 2 years). It's a great way to hone your skills and get into tournament play.

Greens Care:

As I am sure everyone has noticed, our green is not so green right now. That's because it is dormant for the winter. So we need to be especially careful until the nights get warmer and the grass once again begins to grow. That means that what we have now has to last us until that happens. So if you are playing a long jack, stand on the bank instead of on the thin grass. Also, take the mat out so that it is past the bare spots at the edges of the green. Don't walk across the green just to take a short cut when not playing and most of all – please don't roll bowls bags or dump bowls bags on the green. Give it TLC!

Women's Annual Meeting:

On January 19th, Hildegard and I went down to Santa Anita Lawn Bowling Club to attend the annual meeting of the Southwest Women's Division of USLBA. Following are some of the highlights of that meeting.

Tournaments: A new sponsored tournament has been approved by everyone to be called Fossati and Friends. This will be a triples tournament and a group of people have donated money as sponsors so there will be an extra \$500 for prize money. Also, sponsors will be supplying wine and cheese for a nice get-together after the tournament is finished. The first Fossati and Friends will be at Newport on May 5, 2013.

Isabel Forbes, SWWD Tournament Director, is looking for people who are willing to help run tournaments at the clubs. She is especially looking for non-tournament bowlers as it is very difficult to run the tournament and play in it as well. She will be writing up guidelines and possibly also giving a workshop to teach helpers the ropes.

Another new tournament this year will be the Veteran Novice Triples. In this, one member of the team must be a novice. Trophies for the winners will be crystal stars and will be purchased with money from the tournaments account.

Councilor: Carrie Fossati, our women's rep to the USLBA, reported that Pat Gonzales and Bill Hiscock of our Southwest Division were inducted into the Lawn Bowling Hall of Fame. Howard Harris, also from our division, is the new Umpire in Chief, and Shirley

Price will be a selector for the women's national team.

The US Championships will be played at Santa Anita this year October 16 to 20. In 2014 the Championships will be held in South East Division in Florida. The US Open will again be held in Orange County, this year September 22 to 28. The Southwest Division will continue to hold the US Open until 2019.

Neil Fuhrman has been re-hired to handle marketing for the USLBA and he is working on a 5-year plan. Georgie Deno is on the marketing committee representing the SWWD. The committee is working on several suggestions and a new national awards program is under consideration as well as a coaching initiative.

Coaching: Heather Stewart was named coach for the SWWD and she will be offering a series of clinics beginning on February 17. The clinics will be held at Long Beach and will continue on April 14, June 2 and August 25. Cost for the clinics will be \$3 per person and they are open to all women in the division. There will be a flyer coming out very soon.

These are classified ads which were actually placed in U.K. newspapers:

FREE PUPPIES: ½ Cocker Spaniel, ½ sneaky neighbor's dog.

JOINING NUDIST COLONY:
Must sell washer and dryer \$100

WEDDING DRESS FOR SALE:
Worn once by mistake.
Call Stephanie

In Memorium: Lucy wrote this nice piece about Gino Mangini who was a cherished member of our club for many years.



Eugene (Gino) Mangini joined SBLBC in 1986 with his wife, Jean. In 1991 he was appointed by the Board of Directors to spearhead the

Joslyn Patio Cover Project committee and develop plans, permits and contractor bids. He headed the lanai trellis installation crew. Gino served on the Board of Directors from 1994 to 1997. In 1998, Gino was awarded a Life Membership in recognition of his many years of extraordinary service and skill in maintaining and improving the club's equipment and buildings. He continued to serve as maintenance contractor and representative to the Parks and Rec commission until 2004 when his foot problems kept him from participating.

(The above photo was taken at the President's Day barbecue in 2011)

Valentine's Day:



On the schedule this month is our first Special Event – Valentine's Day. And it falls on a Thursday which is also our Birthday Cake Day. So wow! Come join the fun, wear your red and white, expect a good cake after lunch – what could be better?

Website: (www.santabarbarlbc.org)

As I'm sure everyone knows, our club has a very fine website which was created and has been maintained by Lucy Jackson. If you haven't visited it lately, check it out and see all the great stuff Lucy has put on there.

But Lucy needs a break now so the Board of Directors is looking for a computer-savvy person to take over the job of keeping the website up to date. Lucy will train. If anyone is interested please contact Tony or Lucy.

Board of Directors Meeting:

Some brief highlights of the meeting held on Tuesday, February 5:

Treasurer Russ reported that we only have 70 active bowlers now, which is fewer than expected to begin the year. A big effort needs to be made to interest new people.

Several people from the Special Olympics committee, who are interested in arranging for their athletes to use our carpet for their practice, visited the meeting and presented their ideas to the group. They apparently have been practicing every Saturday in the lower area of MacKenzie Park where the grass is very uneven. They would like to use our carpet which more nearly suits their needs. Tony suggested that they talk to the city about allowing a special permit to park in our lot. The leaders and coaches are very interested in having their athletes assimilate as much as possible and would love to have lawn bowlers participate in the bocce practice as well. The plan will be

discussed further after they have more time to plan.

Ken Gould found a gas barbecue grill for sale at a very good price and the group agreed to purchase it for our twilight bowling and other times we do not cater the food.

Ken also announced that he was unable to take over the job as webmaster since his computer would not access the data base. We will therefore be looking for someone else to do this job.

Jess presented Russ with a budget for the purchase of gardening supplies and plants, etc. After some discussion, his budget was agreed upon.

Eileen checked on the possibility of buying medals for tournament winners. This turned out to be expensive as the shop requires a minimum order of 50 at a time. It was suggested that we try asking a \$5.00 entry fee for tournaments that could be returned as prize money for first and second place winners. Bud suggested that we create a new mixed triples tournament to try out this idea.

The Ed Blessing Story:



Following in the footsteps of our biographer Dudley Miller, Lucy Jackson has decided to continue to write biographies to put in our history book. First up is Ed Blessing.

Ed joined SBLBC in 2011 at the suggestion of club member Larry Sizer, his Elk Caravaneer friend. Ed has become a good tournament bowler. In 2012, Ed and Tim Thornton were runners-up in the Super Senior Pairs. He was on the winning team in the Lee & Fred Schmedes Veteran's Day Triples with Dale Jackson and John O'Dea.

Ed was born on June 19, 1924 and was raised on a farm near Bethany, Missouri. He attended "country school" for grades K-8 and went to high school in Bethany, excelling in football as left tackle. Ed had an older brother (Dad's favorite) and a younger sister (grandma's favorite). Being squeezed in the middle he often felt like a renegade.

Ed was called up for selective service and processed in Fort Leonardwood, MO. He passed his physical but the Army didn't need them all so Ed, being the youngest, was sent home. Ed married and moved onto the family farm. They had two children, a son, Larry, and a daughter, Beverly.

In 1942 Ed divorced and married Patsy Lee. They have a son, Scot, and a daughter, Susan. Ed continued farming and electrical work for 5 years until that fateful day in 1949 when he sold his business (after a 3-week vacation to sunny California), moved to Santa Maria, CA and took a position as superintendent for J.W. Bailey Construction Co. He continued working for J.W. Bailey for two more years after he moved to Santa Barbara in 1952. In Santa Barbara Ed was employed for 10 years with Thompson Electric & Craviotto Electric.

In 1973 Ed was Wagon Master for the Elks Caravaneers. They traveled for a year across the United States in their motor home. Ed retired in 1986 at age 62.

Retirement has provided many rich and rewarding experiences for Ed and Patsy. Ed built a hillside home at Lake Nacimiento near Paso Robles and was an avid fisherman with three boats. For 5 years, Ed was the president of the Taws & Paws square dance group. Patsy worked in the Harbor Master Office at Stearns Wharf.

In 1987 he and Patsy cruised the Panama Canal. Ed was impressed with the complexity and wonder of it all. They also made several trips to Cabo San Lucas, Rocky Point, and Porto Penacho.

The next big trip was a 4 month Alaskan trip in their motor home, cruising the Alaskan Highway, the Top of the Word Highway, and the Northwest Passage. They went sight-seeing in

Denali National Park, Fairbanks, Tok, and saw many fabulous sights, especially the glaciers.

Ed and Patsy still travel once a month with fellow Elk Caravaneers and SBLBC lawn bowlers Duane and Emily Aasted, Larry and Linda Sizer and Joe and Jane Streiff. They were members of the DOGS (dine out group) with Ernie and Lois Preston and Larry and Linda Sizer.

Soon after retirement, Ed took up golfing and golfed on Tuesdays and Thursdays until two back surgeries made golfing difficult. He now enjoys lawn bowling.

We're very glad Ed decided to join SBLBC with his Elk Caravaneer friends in the great sport of Lawn Bowling.

On the Jack
Newsletter of the
Santa Barbara Lawn Bowls Club

2013 Officers:

President, Tony Cunningham
Vice-President, Gloria Torres
Secretary, Dan Hedrick
Treasurer, Russ Morgan

Board of Directors:

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Joe Streiff, Tim Thornton, Bud Viard

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