

SANTA BARBARA LAWN BOWLS CLUB

ON THE JACK

DECEMBER, 2015

Although daunting, it is a great honor and an exciting challenge to begin to serve as your club's president for 2016. Without a doubt, Tony Cunningham has been an incredible president for the past three years. We are most grateful for his contagious enthusiasm and many talents. We trust they will not wane in his new role as past president.



We are very fortunate to have the depth and knowledge of the members of the new board as well as the returning officers. My thanks to them one and all for stepping up to be of service to our club.

Recently, one of our newest members told me she thought we were a private club before she joined. Wow! We really don't want to be Santa Barbara's "Best Kept Secret." Our plan in 2016 is to continue to increase our visibility and our membership with our monthly mini-open houses dubbed Open Days. The next one scheduled is Saturday, December 12. These will enhance and complement our annual Open House in May. Come bowl with us that day!

We plan to make a concerted effort this year to do more to integrate the weekend bowlers and the twilight bowlers with the weekday bowlers. We have scheduled our 2016 Annual Meeting on Saturday, December 3, so that members who are working have an opportunity to attend. We are also exploring the possibility of having board meetings on Saturdays to give working folks a chance to attend or even be on the board in the future. We retirees have more flexibility in our schedules. Lawn bowls is a sport for all ages, working or retired.

Last week when I put up the 2016 committee sign-up sheet on the bulletin board, one of our newer members asked me, "Why isn't everyone in the club on a committee?" What a great question! Have a look at that sheet and add your name to a committee. Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something! Volunteers like you make our club an amazing place.

Sharron

ANNUAL MEETING: Our annual member's meeting took place on Tuesday, December 1 at the Davis Center. There was a good turnout and the meeting was a long one. Our treasurer, Russ, made his report, as did Ken Gould who handles the investments. Financially we seem to be in good shape!

Tony thanked everyone for their support and assistance during his three-year tenure. Bud Viard spoke about his activities with visiting groups and this has brought in quite a bit of money to add to our treasury. Bud also spoke about the Special Olympics bocce players who practice at our club and what a good thing this has been for them and also for our club. Then, on behalf of the Secret Committee, Bud presented the Volunteer of the Year award to Tony and Betty Cunningham. Everyone agreed that the committee made an excellent choice.



There was some general discussion about whether to erect a permanent shade structure or whether to get new umbrellas. Originally Tony and the board intended to hold a vote of the members who were at the meeting. However it was finally decided to table the decision until more information is available regarding the type of structure to be built and also whether this will be a problem for the city.

Finally our new President, Sharron Adams, and the three new members of the Board of Directors, Diana Kruse, Max Mickey and Eileen Morton, were seated. The meeting adjourned before noon and many then went to the green to get in a game.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON: Saturday, December 19, we will be having our Christmas luncheon at the club. This year there will be a change in format as the membership voted to have the major part of the meal be already prepared food from the store. The cost is FREE. This will be paid for by our great flower fund which was set up by the Van Wingerden family for just this purpose. However, if anyone has a special dish they wish to bring, please do so. Every bit of help will be appreciated. We will bowl at the usual time, 10:00 a.m. and plan to eat after the game. So come one out, wear your Christmas colors and enjoy the friendship and great food.

NEW YEAR'S DAY: On New Year's Day, which falls on a Friday this year, plan to enjoy our Annual Spaghetti Feed. This was started some years ago by Dorothy Thielges and has become a yearly tradition. We bowl first (of course) and then have our meal. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. This time we will ask everyone to bring something to contribute, either spaghetti, meat, sauce or salad makings. The meal is simple but good and the company is wonderful!

VOLUNTEERS: Scott Coons, our busy greenskeeper, asked me to specially thank Max Mickey and John Schute for taking the time to help him with re-drilling the holes in the backboards so the rink markers don't have nails sticking up for us to fall over. They also helped him by re-painting the markers which were getting worn looking. So thanks guys! We appreciate your willingness to step forward and help when needed.

CALENDAR: Our new President has been very busy working on recruitment. One of the things she has initiated is a new on-line events calendar so anyone can look at our website and find out what's coming up during the month. Anyone who is in charge of scheduling events should let Sharron know so she can see that they appear on the calendar. So go to our website (santabarbaralbc.org) and check it out. If you click on the event you will see details appear.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Since our very wonderful Lucy Jackson is no longer coming to the club and taking pictures for us, we are in need of a replacement. So if you are willing and able to come down to take shots of tournament winners, visitation events, etc. please let Sharron know.

DIRECTORY: And finally, after everyone has paid their dues (delinquent at the end of November), we will be working on our membership directory for 2016. If you have any changes to your information – telephone, address, email address, etc. please let me know. Russ will be compiling a list of members who have paid up for 2016 very soon so we can get the directory started. There is a short grace period for late-payers, but if you want your name in the directory, now is the time to see Russ with your dues. A committee met and made up the schedule of events for next year and an effort was made to schedule many events on the weekends for the sake of the working folks.

Happy Christmas to one and all

