



# Our House

## October 2024

newsletter archive

### A Message from the President

Our 2024-25 season is off and running and what an exciting time it is. Competition in our leagues, while friendly, it has been spirited. There is lots of energy in our new 5 and under league. We have a new Anderson University "freshman" class enrolled in the learn to curl program and we look forward to welcoming them into the open league spots that we have available. A very exciting development is the initiation of a youth program, under the tutelage of Geoff Randolph and Todd Shelton, with eight under 18 young people rapidly honing their skills. They are truly the future of our club and sport, and we have room to welcome lots more.

At the end of last season, we sent out a questionnaire soliciting input on ideas to improve the membership experience. Thank you to all who responded. The Board took you input seriously and have made a number of changes:

Leagues were changed to 8-week sessions so we could accommodate one more team in each league to increase the availability of spots on nights that were convenient for you. The Thursday evening league was moved to an 8PM start time in an effort to make it more convenient for those who struggle to make a 7 PM start. A 5 and Under league was added to aid in integration of our newer members into the club.

We are working to add more social opportunities to help foster a sense of community. The recent Broomsticks and Bingo event was a great success and we are offering a "Sunday Ticket" opportunity for those who would like to mix a little curling and football.

We will continue to fine tune these offerings as we gain experience. If you have any ideas or suggestions don't be shy about contacting myself or any of the other Board members.

As we have stated many times, this club exists, and functions based on volunteers. We will soon be posting some important roles that need to be filled. Please be on the lookout for those and other calls for help (such as the Patriot Spiel) that come out. This club will only be as successful as we all make it to be.

I look forward to seeing everyone out on the ice as the season progresses.

Good Curling!

Jim Puckering

### Bingo & Broomsticks



What a night! Our Bingo and Broomsticks Kickoff Bash was a total blast, and we're still buzzing from the fun! A huge thank you to the fabulous Edna Mole (aka Todd Shelton) for keeping the energy high as our MC for the evening. Between Edna's witty humor and DJ Deinis Martin spinning the perfect tracks, the party was an absolute hit.



The event brought together both new and familiar faces from the Circle City Curling community, including a few enthusiastic members from our 18 Under Youth League. It was a fantastic mix of curling fans of all ages, and the good times rolled all night long.



If you missed out, don't worry — there will be plenty more events coming your way this season. Thanks to everyone who made the night a success, and we can't wait to see you all at the ice soon!

### Ernie Forney Icehouse



Circle City Curling Club is proud to honor a few very deserving individuals who have made a lasting impact on our community. At our recent event, we celebrated their contributions and dedication with special awards and the dedication of the Ernie Forney Icehouse.

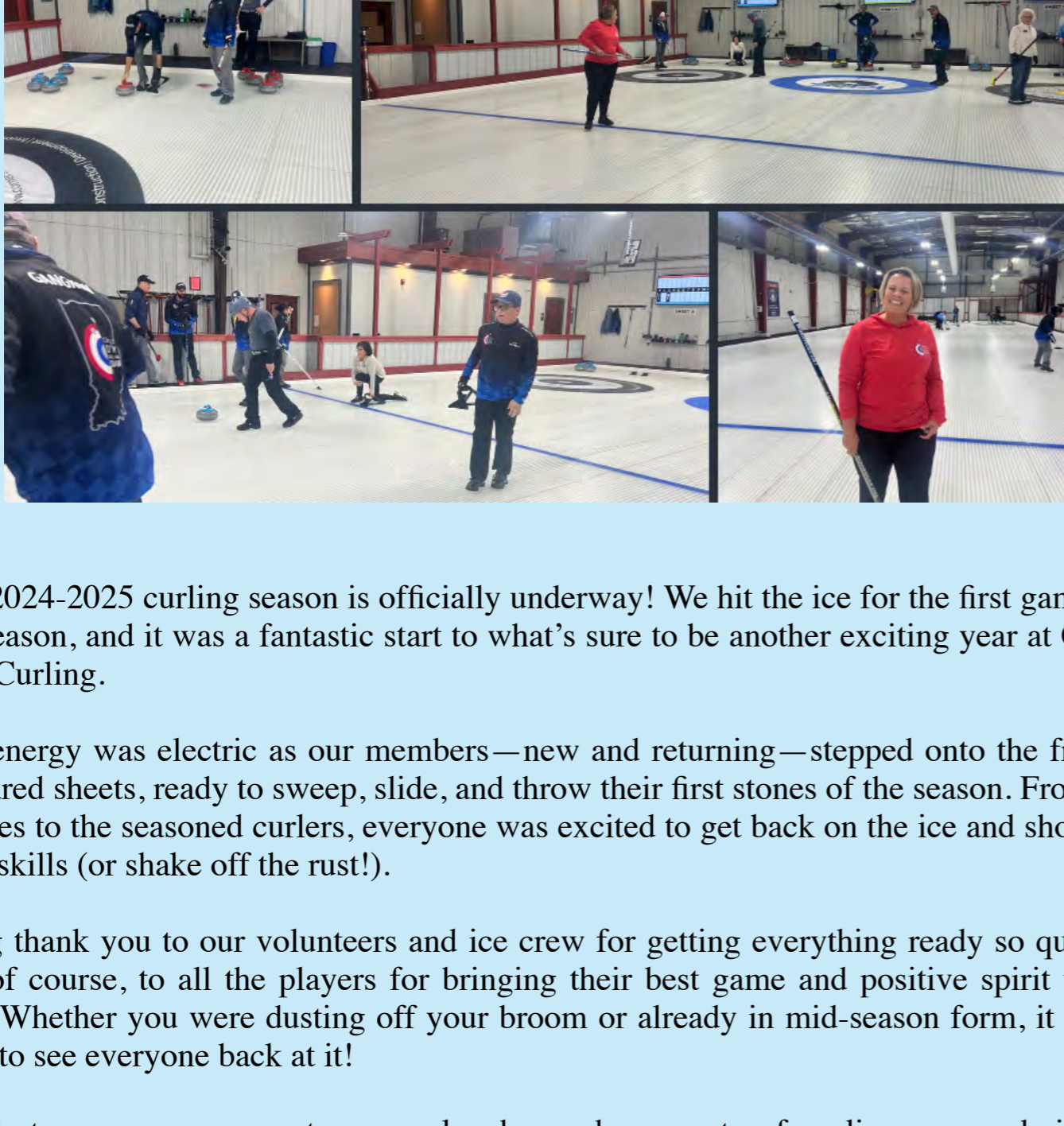
**Ernie Forney** was honored with the naming of the Icehouse in recognition of his incredible work and leadership. Ernie has been a cornerstone of our club, serving as a board member from 2013 to 2020, including a three-year term as President. But his involvement didn't stop there—he was a key player in the planning and development of our dedicated ice facility. As Project Manager, Ernie oversaw the transformation of the building from a dusty warehouse into the stunning facility we now enjoy. His vision, leadership, and hard work were integral in designing the space, procuring essential equipment, and leading a team of volunteers to create the perfect curling environment. This Icehouse simply wouldn't exist without Ernie's tireless efforts, and for that, we are forever grateful.

In addition to the Icehouse dedication, we recognized two other remarkable individuals for their exceptional service to the club. **Bruce Johnston**, our resident expert and the backbone of our bar, was honored with a special acknowledgment for his years of service. Bruce's knowledge and hard work keep our club running smoothly, and—let's be honest—his contributions ensure that curling's most important tradition—beer—remains a staple at every event!

Finally, we celebrated **Sharon Martin**, who truly is the heart and soul of Circle City Curling. Sharon is the person everyone turns to when they have a question or need assistance, and her behind-the-scenes efforts have been crucial to the club's success. Whether it's handling logistics, offering support, or just keeping everything running smoothly, Sharon's dedication and leadership are unmatched. We were thrilled to honor her with a special acknowledgment of her own, as without Sharon, the club wouldn't be what it is today.

We are so grateful to **Ernie, Bruce, and Sharon** for their continued dedication to Circle City Curling Club. Their hard work, passion, and commitment are what make our community so special. Here's to many more years of curling, camaraderie, and success!

### Getting The Ice In!

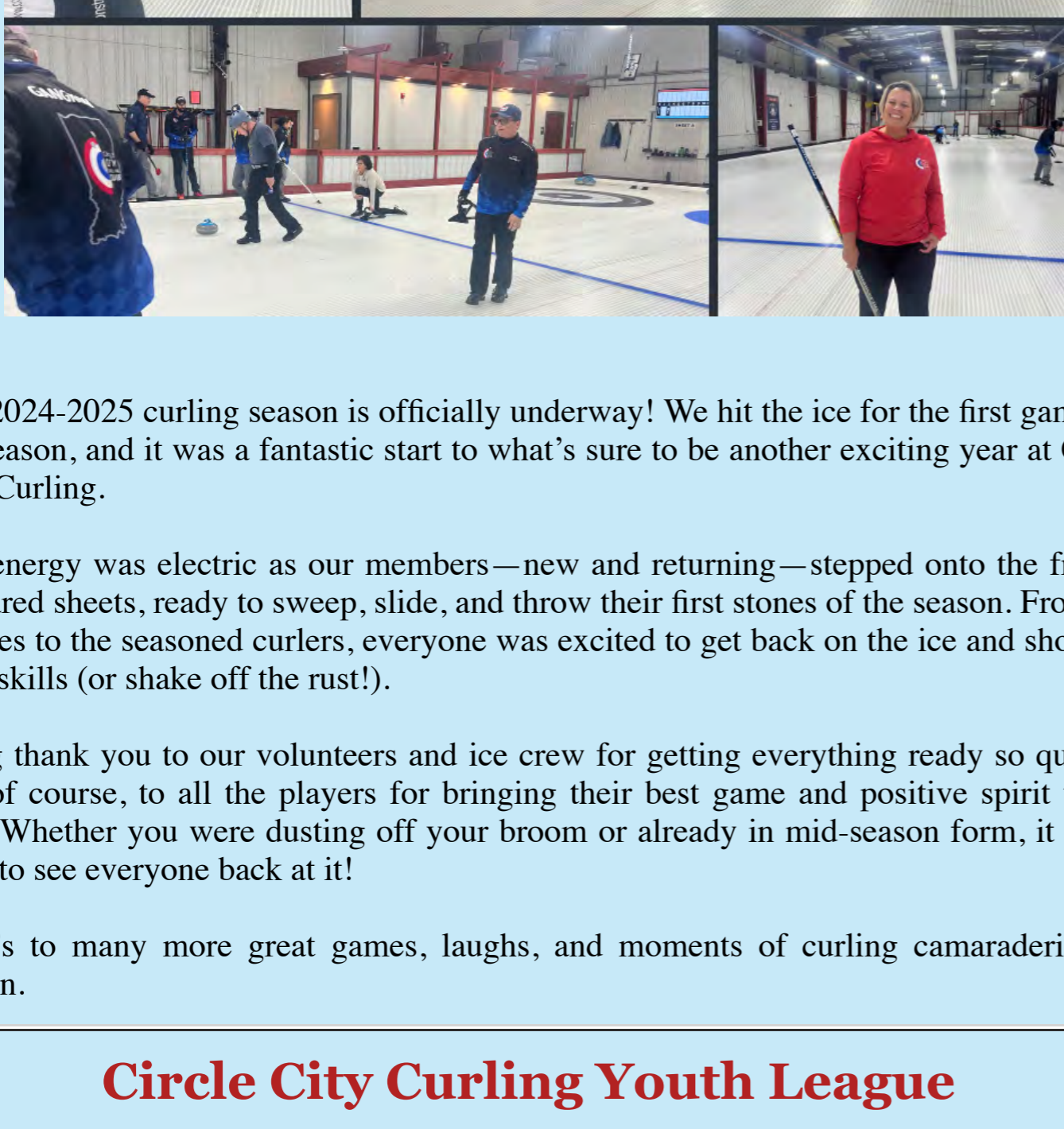


The 2024-2025 curling season is officially underway at Circle City Curling! Our dedicated ice crew worked tirelessly to get the ice in top shape, carefully laying down all the lines—centerlines, back lines, T-lines, hoglines, sidelines, and even wheelchair lines. And let's not forget the houses and other in-ice graphics that make our rink a true curling haven!

A huge thank you to Wes, Jim, Dan, Andrew, Jeff, Tammy, Sharon and Lorraine, for spending the better part of their Saturday making sure every detail was perfect. Your hard work ensures that our ice is ready for another great season of curling.

We can't wait to see everyone back on the ice and in action. Here's to a fantastic season ahead!

### A Great Start to the Season!



The 2024-2025 curling season is officially underway! We hit the ice for the first games of the season, and it was a fantastic start to what's sure to be another exciting year at Circle City Curling.

The energy was electric as our members—new and returning—stepped onto the freshly prepared sheets, ready to sweep, slide, and throw their first stones of the season. From the rookies to the seasoned curlers, everyone was excited to get back on the ice and show off their skills (or shake off the rust!).

A big thank you to our volunteers and ice crew for getting everything ready so quickly, and of course, to all the players for bringing their best game and positive spirit to the rink. Whether you were dusting off your broom or already in mid-season form, it was a blast to see everyone back at it!

Here's to many more great games, laughs, and moments of curling camaraderie this season.

### Circle City Curling Youth League



We are thrilled to announce the launch of our new 18 and Under Youth Curling League at Circle City Curling Club! This exciting addition is a major milestone for us, and we couldn't be more excited to introduce young athletes to the sport of curling.

Our league is off to a fantastic start, thanks to the dedication and hard work of our incredible coaches, Geoff Randle and Todd Shelton, along with the tireless support of volunteer Cassie Gross. Together, they've built strong partnerships with local organizations like Community in Motion and schools across Madison County to spread the word and encourage youth participation.

As a result of their efforts, we've already welcomed eight talented young curlers to our league. These youth have shown incredible commitment, diving into their practices with enthusiasm and a willingness to learn the ins and outs of the sport. From learning proper technique to understanding the strategy of the game, we're excited to see them grow both as curlers and as individuals.

This program is more than just about teaching curling—it's about building community, fostering teamwork, and providing a fun and challenging environment for local youth. We look forward to seeing how these young athletes develop over the course of the season and can't wait to watch them grow into future curling stars.

A huge thank you to Geoff, Todd, and Cassie for their dedication to the league, and to the parents and supporters who are helping us build a solid foundation for youth curling in our community. We're just getting started, and we can't wait to see where this new chapter takes us. Here's to the future of curling, and to the next generation of curlers here at Circle City!

### A New Friend Along The Way...

What happens when a lacrosse player from the US Virgin Islands decides to give curling a try? A memorable journey, that's what! Meet Kevin Reder, a talented athlete whose passion for ice sports led him from the warm shores of the Virgin Islands to the curling ice.

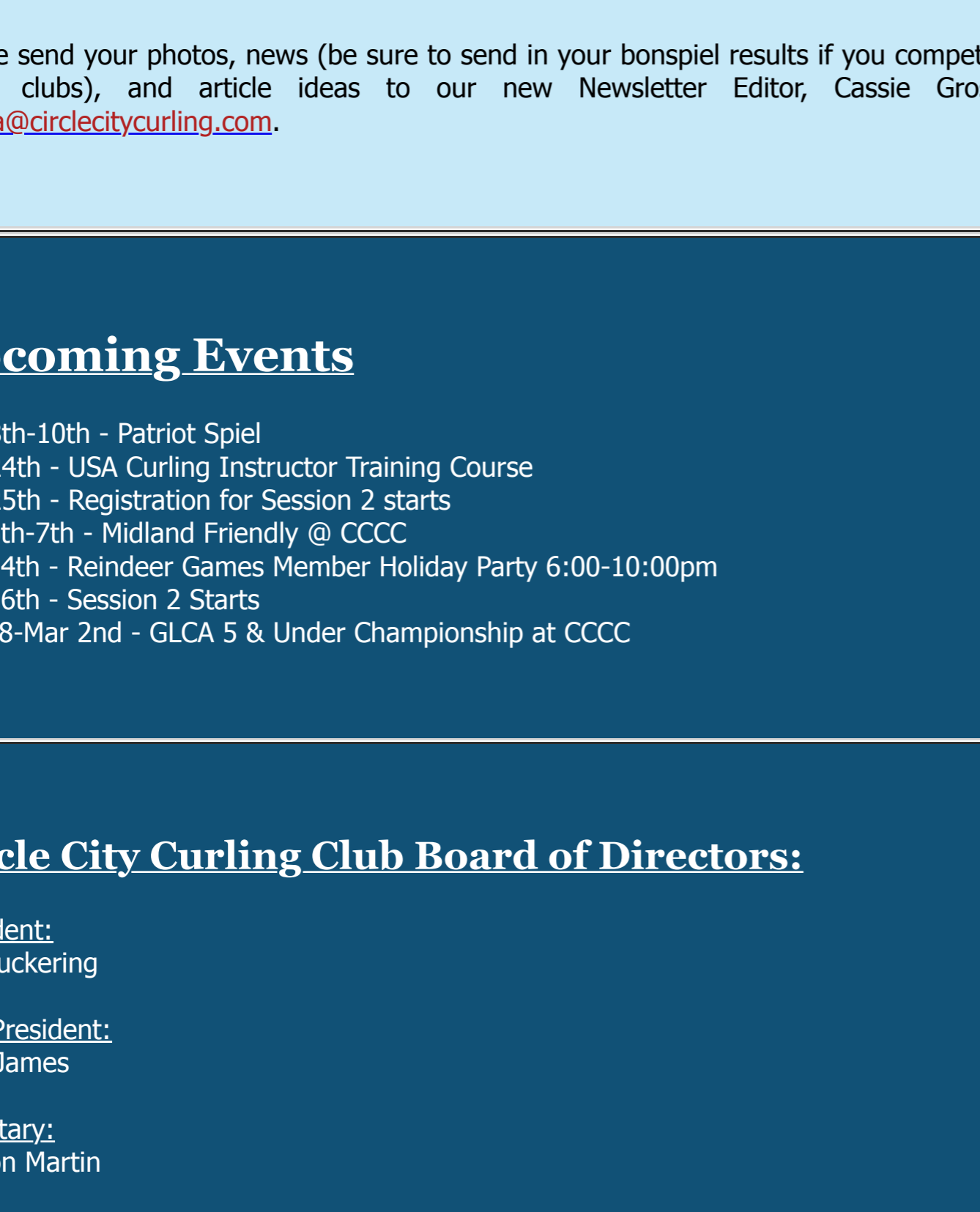
Kevin's story began when he was approached to try out for the US Virgin Islands Curling Team—strictly on hockey ice, but the opportunity to try his hand at curling was too good to pass up. So, he made his way to Charlotte Curling Club for a bonspiel that the USVI team was using as a tryout, but not before making a pitstop at the one and only Circle City Curling Club!

Enter Sharon Martin and Dan Ivers, who graciously made time for Kevin to introduce him to the basics of curling on a Monday before his big tryout. Dan, who is no stranger to the sport, spent several hours giving Kevin a crash course, walking him through the fundamentals of curling—how to throw a stone, how to sweep, and most importantly, how to have fun on the ice.

As if Kevin's whirlwind curling introduction wasn't eventful enough, things took another turn when his flight was delayed and ultimately canceled. But true to his dedication and enthusiasm for his new-found love of curling, Kevin wasn't about to let a little thing like missed flights stand in his way. He rented a car and drove in hopes of making it to his tryout in Charlotte—but, alas, time and circumstances didn't align, and he missed his session on the ice.

Despite the setbacks, Kevin remains committed to curling and plans to continue his journey in the sport. He's promised to keep us updated on his travels. He still has a chance to make the team and is looking forward to attending more bonspiels in the future. We'll be cheering him on every step of the way and can't wait to see what's next for this hockey-to-curling star!

Good luck, Kevin, and thank you for stopping by Circle City Curling Club. We look forward to hearing more about your curling adventures—and maybe sharing the ice with you again someday!



### Send Us Your Photos and News!

Please send your photos, news (be sure to send in your bonspiel results if you competing at other clubs), and article ideas to our new Newsletter Editor, Cassie Gross at [media@circlecitycurling.com](mailto:media@circlecitycurling.com).

### Upcoming Events

- Nov 8th-10th - Patriot Spiel
- Nov 24th - USA Curling Instructor Training Course
- Nov 25th - Registration for Session 2 starts
- Dec 6th-7th - Midland Friendly @ CCCC
- Dec 14th - Reindeer Games Member Holiday Party 6:00-10:00pm
- Dec 16th - Session 2 Starts
- Feb 28-Mar 2nd - GLCA 5 & Under Championship at CCCC

### Circle City Curling Club Board of Directors:

- President: Jim Puckering
- Vice President: Matt James
- Secretary: Sharon Martin
- Treasurer: Jeff Timmons
- At-Large Members: Linda Brennan, Jim Gaignon, Jonathan Intraviva, Andrew Sand, Todd Shelton

### Newsletter Editor:

Cassie Gross  
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