



# The Jesters Club

**"FOR WHEN THE ONE GREAT SCORER COMES TO MARK AGAINST YOU NAME. HE MARKS NOT THAT YOU WON OR LOST BUT HOW YOU PLAYED THE GAME."**

Winter 2005

A bi-annual newsletter of the Jesters Club (Ontario)

## SPRING PARTY

In early June, some 75 people were hosted by Susan and John Lea at their home in North York.

Needless to say, the event was a huge success. From the venue to the food, from the service to the wine, from the banter to often repeatable tales, all had a great time.

We had the opportunity to introduce a number of new Jesters. These included Mike Costigan, Brian Murray, Tim Bovaird, Lindsay Smith and Rob Brooks. All were presented with the Club tie.

Also present were a number of Jesters who have formed the tradition of our Club. They have all been members for over 40 years and have made significant contributions. These included Peter Berry, Barney Lawrence, Don Leggat, Bill Duffield and Ian Stewart.

Unable to attend were Ernie Howard, Jim Biddell, Michael Measures, Arnold Massey and Tony LeFleur.

These ten gentlemen represent some 450+ years of giving to the squash community.

To those of you who supported the event, thank you. To those of you who were unable to attend, you missed a great evening. Plan on coming next year.

To Susan and John Lea, thank you for opening your home to all of us and making for such a great evening.

## UPDATED INFORMATION

We are constantly struggling to keep individual information up-to-date. If the information in the September 2005 - Jesters Book is incorrect, please notify Ed Bracht of the change so that it will be corrected for the next edition.



## MACKAY DOUBLES

On October 20-23, the Ontario Jesters hosted the 1st Frank MacKay Doubles at Cedar Springs and Burlington Racquet Club.



To say that the 60 teams who participated in the event had a good time would be an understatement. The level of squash was acceptable, the food even better, the liquids were outstanding and finally at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday afternoon we suggested that they go home.

When we decided to hold this event to celebrate the life of a good guy, it was also thought that it should be more than another doubles event. Thus the idea to raise funds for The Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital to purchase a cardiac unit.

Our goal was accomplished and the event raised \$35,000 to purchase a Zoll Defibrillator.

The hospital will also name a room in Frank's honour.

We did not think that donations alone would generate the necessary funds to purchase the equipment. Thus the decision to hold a silent auction.

Some 70 items were sold at the Saturday evening dinner. To our shock and delight, the total funds raised exceeded \$26,000.

With the combination of entry fees, patrons and the silent auction, we were able to purchase the cardiac equipment and will make a significant contribution to the Ontario Jesters Junior Squash Fund.

As well, funds have been be put aside for next year's event.

How the Jesters spend the contribution will be up to the Ontario Executive. Feel free to pass on your comments and suggestions.

Jesters who were part of the Committee included Bob Mundy, Cass Quinn, Doug Jury, Norm Crook, Tom Nederpel and Dave van Wely.

Winners of the weekend included the hospital, junior



squash, Ontario Jesters and all those who participated.

Frank would have loved it.

## **BARNEY LAWRENCE CELEBRATES 80TH BIRTHDAY**

Barney Lawrence celebrated his 80th birthday party in October together with his dear wife Pat, who turned 65 years young, with a cast of thousands present. One of the highlights of the evening was the rendition of "Are You Lonesome Tonight?" the lyrics of which are reproduced below:

"Are you lonesome tonight?  
Does your tummy feel tight?  
Did you bring both your Advil  
and Tums?  
Does your memory stray  
to that bright sunny day,  
When you had all your teeth  
and your gums?  
Is your hairline receding?  
Your eyes growing dim?  
Hysterectomy for her,  
and prostate for him  
Does your back give you pain?  
Do your knees predict rain?  
Tell me BARN, are you

lonesome to-nite?  
Is your blood pressure up?  
Good cholesterol down?  
are you eating your low fat  
cuisine?  
All that oat bran and fruit  
Metamucil to boot  
Helps you run like a well oiled  
machine.  
If it's tennis or squash, he sure  
knows the score.  
Yes, he knows where it's at  
but forgets what it's for.  
So his gallbladder's gone,  
And the gout lingers on.  
Tell me BARN, are you  
lonesome to-nite?  
When your hungry Pat's not,  
When you're cold, Pat's hot,  
Then you start that old  
thermostat war,  
When you turn out the light  
Pat turns left, you turn right,

Then you let out that  
symphonic snore.  
Barn was always romantic,  
so witty and smart,  
A friend to so many,  
and a big guy with heart,  
So take all the bets,  
It's as good as it gets,  
Pat & Barney are with us  
tonite".



## LAPHAM-GRANT MATCHES

As many of you know, the Canadian Jesters have taken over the organizational responsibility of the Lapham-Grant matches from Squash Canada.

The 2006 event will be hosted by the United States and will take place at the Jonathan Club in Los Angles over the weekend of February 17 to 19.

Please note that while the Jesters have taken over the organizational responsibility, the Captain will be selected by the National Executive and the team will be selected from across the country. The Captain's job will be to put together a team that represents all parts of Canada.

Michael Martin of Montreal has been appointed Canadian captain and will be responsible for selecting the 2006 team. Good luck Michael.

## JUNIORS TO EUROPE

Ontario is well represented in the 28 player Canadian contingent travelling over Christmas to the Scottish Junior Open and British Junior Open being played in Edinburgh and Sheffield respectively from December 27th to January 6th. They include Colin West (Toronto) #1 in Ontario for Boys Under 19,

Tyler Hamilton (Dundas), Fred Reid Jr. (Markham), #1 and #2 in Ontario for Boys Under 17, Samantha Cornett (Dunrobin), #2 in Canada for Girls Under 15 and Stefano d'Asti (Ottawa), #4 in Ontario for Boys Under 13. Also included are the three talented Gemmells, Laura, Jennifer and Michelle (Toronto), Arjun and Amar Gupta (Toronto) and Kimesh Chetty (Burlington). It will be a great experience and opportunity for all of them to test their skills against the best junior squash players in the world and we wish them all the best of luck. Each of these juniors plays in a manner which brings credit to the game, their coaches and their clubs.

Through an Ontario Jester who was kind enough to donate the necessary air miles to get them to Europe, Tyler Hamilton and Fred Reid Jr. are being supported to these two events. A British Jester will host them in London for two days at the end of the trip. While in London, they will get the opportunity to try court tennis and racquets.

We need to decide how to best support selected juniors in the future and will discuss this at the next Ontario Executive Committee meeting. Your comments and suggestions would be appreciated.

We hope to do more of this in

the future and would hope to have other Jesters step forward with excess air miles.

## GOLF DAY

In late September, some 32 Jesters gathered at Dundas Valley Golf Club in the Hamilton area for a game of golf, dinner and good times.

Who won the event, we don't remember and frankly don't care. What mattered is that we had an excellent turnout and all had a good time.

The reason for even mentioning the golf day is that we have booked the course again for next September and hope to have more people join us. Also, we are thinking of combining the golf day with the annual meeting and want your opinion.

Please let us know by either email or telephone to me at 905-632-5584 or email to [cquinn31@cogeco.ca](mailto:cquinn31@cogeco.ca)



### ANNUAL MEETING - JANUARY 25, 2006

The annual meeting of The Jesters Club (Ontario) will be held on Wednesday, January 25, 2006 at The Military College, northeast corner of Wilson Ave and Young Blvd., Toronto. Cocktails are at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:30 pm. Black Tie Preferred.

With some two months' notice, we certainly hope that you will plan on attending. Out-of -town Jesters, let us know if you need a billet and we will do our best to accommodate you.

We plan on ask the Western New York Jesters to attend the dinner. If there is interest, we would plan on squash during the late afternoon.

Confirm your reservation by calling Ed Bracht at 416-489-6323 or email to [bracht@sympatico.ca](mailto:bracht@sympatico.ca).

See you at the dinner!



### NOMINATION - NEW JESTERS

The past eighteen months have seen a more proactive Ontario Jesters group. This is a result of many people getting

involved and sharing the workload. Thanks to all.

It is now time to consider the nomination of new Jesters for 2006. We would want to add up to five new members in 2006. Hopefully, the nominees will be as outstanding as those introduced this past year. Thought should go into your nominations. We are looking for individuals who are, have or will give back to our game. Emphasis should be placed on the following:

**Making** have already made a contribution to our game

**Working** within the squash community

**Support** of Junior squash and Adult events.

**Sitting** on Boards of Squash Clubs /Volunteer Groups

**Lifetime** Achievement

**For the younger player**, the potential of that person to give back to the game in the future.

**An attitude**, not unworthy of the game.

Nominations, in writing, that details the experiences as well as the character of the individual should be sent to the attention of Cass Quinn and will be reviewed in detail by your Ontario Executive. The request must have a Nominator as well as four (4) additional Jesters who will second the nomination.

These nominations must be received by January 30, 2006

as we want to review the letters, inform you of the nominees and have the list of selected individuals submitted to the National Executive no later than mid-March.

If there are any questions or comments, please contact Cass Quinn at 905-632-5584 or email to [cquinn31@cogeco.ca](mailto:cquinn31@cogeco.ca).

### SOUTH AFRICA TOUR - MAY 2006

On May 6th, 2006, some twelve (12) Canadians (both players & partners) will arrive in Johannesburg for the "2006 Canadian Jesters Tour of South Africa".

The sixteen day tour will include the following stops.

May 6 to 8 Johannesburg  
May 9 to 11 Cape Town  
May 12 to 16 Southern Cape, St Francis & Port Elizabeth  
May 17 & 18 Durban & Pietermaritzburg  
May 19 to 21 Johannesburg  
May 22 Departure for Safari Park

We truly expect to have a national presence on the touring team and very much want to have Jesters from all parts of Canada.



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Having said the above, if you are interested in going, throw your name in the hat. You will be given consideration.

Contact Cass Quinn and he will provide more detailed information. He can be reached at 905-632-5584 or [cquinn31@cogeco.ca](mailto:cquinn31@cogeco.ca)

The team will be announced on or about January 6th, 2006.

## **JIM BIDDELL - A JESTER OF 54 YEARS**

It is with sadness that we report on the death of Jim Biddell of London. Jim became a Jester in 1951, one of the first Canadians to be nominated since the Club officially opened a Canadian branch in 1948.

Jim spent some 36 years in the

investment industry in London and was much involved in golf and tennis at the London Hunt and squash at the London Squash Club. He was a founding member of the London Squash Club and a past president.

To his family our sincere sympathy.

