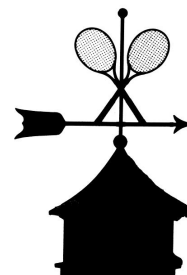

THE BASELINE

Field Club News

February 2009



A Message from the NEW President

Welcome to the first edition of *The Baseline* for 2009, the 45th year of operation of The Field Club of Longmeadow. First, I would like to say how honored I am to be your president. I have enjoyed the past 7 years as a member, volunteering on various committees and co-chairing events with individuals who, over the years, have become some of my closest friends. Because I was encouraged to join a committee when I first joined The Field Club, I became actively involved in the operations of this wonderful, energetic place. The Field Club is made up of members who give of their time and energy to make every aspect of the Club – including pool, paddle, tennis, social and gardens – stand apart from any other in this area. The charter members, many of whom are still involved in the daily operations of the Club, had a vision of what The Field Club of Longmeadow would be. This is why I encourage you to volunteer on a committee and get involved. I welcome this year's new members, and I am counting on the members who sponsored these new families to encourage them to participate and volunteer, which is greatly needed and always appreciated.

Three new members of the FC Board, **Sally Gallucci**, **Cathy Grayboff** and **Buzz Travers**, were voted-in at the annual meeting this past November 2008. I would like to extend my thanks to the three Board members who finished their terms: **Bill Monks**, **Dick Forrest** and **Lisa Doherty**, out-going president. Bill served on the Board as treasurer for the last 6 years. Under his leadership, the Field Club's financial position has remained solid; Bill ensured that we ran our Club at a surplus, yet also spent money on many capital

improvements. As head of Communications, Dick kept members informed of various happenings at the Club and also kept us in touch with fellow members. Lisa Doherty did an amazing job leading the Board and the Club through a very successful year. Lisa was instrumental in organizing a member survey that enabled members to share their opinions on how their Club is run. The feedback has been invaluable. A sincere thank you goes out to each of you.

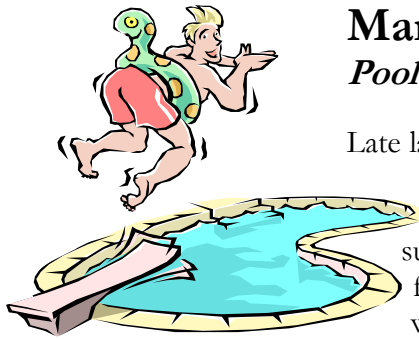
I look forward to working with the Field Club's 2009 Board:

Dave Appleman, VP, *Paddle, Capital Improvements*
Buzz Travers, Treasurer, *Snuggery, Capital Improvements*
Doug Jangraw, Asst. Treasurer, *Gardens, Junior Tennis*
Candy Weiner, Clerk, *Communications*
Maria O'Reilly, Asst. Clerk, *Pool, Tot Lot*
Sally Gallucci, *Social, Junior Paddle*
Cathy Grayboff, *Tennis*
Craig Carr, *Membership*

This motivated team, together with our wonderful staff (comprising Club Manager **Jim Girotti**, **Renee Oliveri**, **Anne Boisvert**, **Brad Walulak**, **Eileen Mason** and **Lee-Anne Sprague**) and every individual member, will secure the success of another season at The Field Club.

Sincerely,

Chris Nicholson



Manager's Corner

Pool Repairs Underway

Late last fall, we began a project at the pool in hopes of stemming the water loss we experienced all summer long. Our hope was to find the main drain piping, which comes out of the deep end of the pool (approximately 13-14 feet underground), and to replace 60 feet of the 47-year-old piping all the way back into the basement of the Snuggery building.

Our pool contractor worked diligently but could not locate the piping after striking ground water at the 10 1/2 foot level. We then brought in more experts with cameras and metal detectors and followed the piping out from the Snuggery 54 feet, where it dives down to the bottom of the pool. We are now entering "phase three" of the project and have hired Crestview Construction out of Southwick, MA, to bring in heavier equipment, excavate the area and replace the existing cast-iron piping with 6-inch PVC piping. Our goal is to have this phase completed by March 1, allowing repairs to be made to the concrete decking in late March or early April. After all, Warm weather and Memorial Day weekend will be here before we know it! — *Jim Girotti*

Fond Farewell

The Field Club family was deeply saddened by the recent passing of two members, **Neal Webber** and **Tony Lovell**. They will be missed by many.

In addition, please note that the members below have resigned from the Club:

Mike & Kelly Albert
Linda Berg
Jay & Susan Burton
Dick & Rozie Curran
Jim & Leslie Frank
Melanie & Chip Gagnier
Ron Hemmelgarn &
Barbara Tierney
Cynthia Hibert
David & Andrea Kinsley
Marlene & George
Kittredge
Patricia H. Lincoln Low
Daniel & Bernice Lynch
Kevin Maynard
Nancy & Paul
McCormick
Daniel & Lynne
McDonough
Carrie & Stephen Poole
Lori Riley
Mark & Heidi Shea
John & Alison Skar
Mark & Karen Stark
Anne Weiss
Scott & Donna Willson

Guidebook 2009

The Guidebook (the green binder that typically lies near your phone book) is a useful resource for key information about The Field Club and its members. Although generally opened for an email, phone number, address or help in remembering a name, it also contains information on by-laws, rules and regulations, committee and board members, events and activities.

The Guidebook is updated each year in the March/April timeframe. The 2009 packet, which includes ten sections plus a cover sheet and table of contents, will be sent to each member to replace the existing sections in the green binder.

All members should now have the current 2008 Guidebook sections. **Please verify that your family information, address and email are correct and up to date.** Email **Rob Durfee** with any changes no later than March 31. These changes will be incorporated in the 2009 edition.

Please note: New families that have joined the Club since the April 2008 printing will have their information in the 2009 Guidebook. Membership Chairperson **Craig Carr** forwards this information when a membership is confirmed.

— *Rob Durfee*

Membership News

There has been quite a bit of movement on the Field Club waiting list this year, so it is shorter than usual. If you have been thinking of sponsoring anyone for membership, this would be a great time to get your friends or family onto the list. Grab the opportunity... before the list gets long again! Contact Craig Carr at 567-3941 or CMTCARR@aol.com for an application packet.

— *Craig Carr*

Winter Paddle Filled with Plenty of Play!

APTA-Sanctioned Event — The Field Club of Longmeadow is fast becoming a venue of choice on the APTA (American Platform Tennis Association) circuit. Field Club and APTA member Rob Durfee chaired the first of two APTA-sanctioned events on November 22. The 95+ event (players combined age is over 95) drew 24 teams from all over the Northeast, including Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and Boston. The Field Club had strong representation at the event, with 11 teams participating. In fact, it was a great accomplishment for our Club, as both the Main Draw Finals and Consolation Finals were all Field Club matches.

The final match paired **Hans Doup/Naren Dhamodharan** and **Jeff Morneau/Rod Larson**. Doup/Dhamodharan won in three sets over Morneau/Larson. The consolation match featured **Alex Seiler/Dick Seiler**, who won in three sets over the team of **Bill Durfee/Rob Durfee**. Field Club participants were: **Alex Guardia/Bill Santaniello, Rob Durfee/Bill Durfee, Buzz Travers/Gary Weiner, Don Douglas/Mike Shields, Doug Jangraw/Dick Forrest, Dick Seiler/Alex Seiler, Brad Hoffman/Greg Birtwell, Per Nilsson/Chris Horne, Bill Seefeld/Mike Doyle, Hans Doup/Naren Dhamodharan, Jeff Morneau/Rod Larson.**

The day was filled with outstanding paddle play and ended with a luncheon at Longmeadow Country Club.

Wanna She — Sunday, December 7, hosted by **Sara Suchy** and **Carleen Fischer-Hoffman**. Twelve players turned out to participate. Hopefully next year more ladies will *wanna* play...

Wanna B — the popular men's Wanna B was postponed until Feb 21st

Friday Night Mixer — scheduled for December 19, cancelled due to a snowstorm

Men's A&B Tournament — Saturday, January 3, hosted by **Brad Hoffman, Naren Dhamodharan, Brian Prast** and **Scott Brindle**. A total of 32 Players (27 FC/5 LCC) enjoyed intense paddle play all day, with the courts still full at 3 p.m. Plenty of food and drink made the day fly by.

Do You Dare Paddle Mixer — Sunday, January 4. This midday mixer was hosted by **Leslie Haskins**. Fourteen couples participated.

New Year's Resolution Paddle 101 Clinic — scheduled for Sunday, January 11, cancelled due to a snowstorm

Deep Freeze Friday Night Mixer — January 9, hosted by the **Nilssons** and **Plauts**. **Rick Plaut** reports that a great time was had by all! The weather lived up to the name as temperatures remained near 0° F. Twenty participants turned out to play. A wonderful corn chowder was gobbled up by all, with fancy desserts to follow. Play started at 7 p.m. and didn't break up until close to midnight. The Deep Freeze Friday Night Mixer looks to be a keeper on next year's schedule of events!

Sadie Hawkins (Ladies Pick) — January 17, hosted by the lovely and talented **Leslie Haskins** and **Gerrit "the Flying Dutchman" Toebes**. The Saturday morning gathering was amidst sunny skies but saw the temperature dip to -5° F when play began. Seven couples, including one husband/wife team (which we try to discourage), participated. Each played pretty much six consecutive matches... which helped fight the cold. Play finished a bit after noon, and some stayed to play. A light breakfast was served. All seemed happy with their partners and play. When scores were tallied, **Naren Dhamodharan** and **Kate Morneau** had the best score.

Check the Field Club website at www.field-club.com for upcoming paddle events!

— *Dave Appleman*



Chillin' on the Paddle Court



On a scale of one to ten, the Women's Annual Mixer on Sunday, January 25, was a twelve. The temperature was a brisk -5° F, and there wasn't a cloud in the sky. Sixteen ladies, bundled up in layers, hit the courts running as partners and opponents mixed around every 45 minutes. A highlight of the event was a stoppage in play for pictures and parfaits, compliments of **Cathy Grayboff**. Yum! — *Lynn Travers*

An Afternoon on the Paddle Courts...

A Night at The Oscars

(a women's paddle event)



February 22, 2009

Round Robin Paddle Play at 4 p.m.
Dinner Catered by Iron Chef

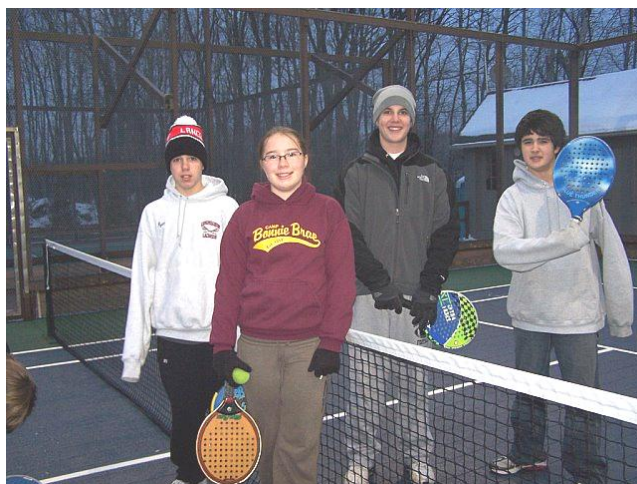
**Watch the Red Carpet and
Oscars at the Hut...
and wear your red carpet paddle attire!**

Junior Paddle Players... *Join the fun!*

Session III of Junior Paddle began on Tuesday, January 27, and ends on March 10. Remaining clinics will be held on Tuesdays, March 3 and March 10. There's plenty of room for new players and racquets are provided. The younger group (9+) meets from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., while the older group (11+) meets from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Questions? Contact Lynn Travers. See you on the courts!



Daniel Draymore, Jack Cove, Ethan Dhamodharan, Adam Katz



Jack Ryan, Mary Kate Grow, Zach Kalman, Shane Coughlin

— *Lynn Travers*

Annual Treasurer's Report

In case you missed it, below is a copy of the report presented by former Treasurer **Bill Monks** at the Annual Meeting in November:

2-Nov-07		Last Year	Fiscal 07 Budget	This Year	Variance	% to Income	Fiscal 08 Budget	% to Income	% Change
OPERATING INCOME									
DUES	394,524	397,000	397,264	264	85.0%	440,000	86.6%	10.8%	
SALES:									
Paddle	7,379	8,000	7,922	-78	1.7%	8,000	1.6%	1.0%	
Tennis	28,926	30,000	33,286	3,286	7.1%	33,000	6.5%	-0.9%	
Pool	625	750	852	102	0.2%	800	0.2%	-6.1%	
FEES:									
Guest & Garden	5,943	6,000	6,879	879	1.5%	6,800	1.3%	-1.1%	
Late Fees	1,775	1,500	1,975	475	0.4%	2,000	0.4%	1.3%	
SOCIAL EVENTS	9,156	10,000	10,924	924	2.3%	10,000	2.0%	-8.5%	
OTHER	6,639	5,000	8,467	3,467	1.8%	7,500	1.5%	-11.4%	
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME		454,967	458,250	467,569	9,319	####	508,100	100.0%	8.7%
OPERATING EXPENSES									
ACTIVITIES									
Paddle	21,308	21,675	27,435	-5,760	5.9%	29,950	5.9%	9.2%	
Tennis	84,094	86,330	85,781	549	18.3%	90,250	17.8%	5.2%	
Pool	57,294	62,950	59,791	3,159	12.8%	64,275	12.7%	7.5%	
Tot Lot	1,375	2,100	2,223	-123	0.5%	2,550	0.5%	14.7%	
	164,071	173,055	175,230	-2,175	37.5%	187,025	36.8%	6.7%	
OTHER									
Social	8,795	10,000	11,565	-1,565	2.5%	11,000	2.2%	-4.9%	
Overhead & Maintenance	216,269	244,295	253,203	-8,908	54.2%	268,400	52.8%	6.0%	
Debt Service (principle)	19,871	23,550	23,179	371	5.0%	25,100	4.9%	8.3%	
	244,935	277,845	287,947	-10,102	61.6%	304,500	59.9%	5.7%	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES		409,006	450,900	463,177	-12,277	99.1%	491,525	96.7%	6.1%
SNUGGERY OPERATIONS:									
Sales	30,605	35,000	36,076	1,076	7.7%	38,000		5.3%	
Member Surcharge: \$25 m	2,446	0	1,951	1,951	0.4%				
Cost of Sales/Maintenance	-28,947	-33,000	-30,957	2,043	-6.6%	-30,775		-0.6%	
	4,104	2,000	7,070	5,070	1.5%	7,225	1.4%		
* SURPLUS AVAILABLE FOR CAPITAL UPGRADES		50,065	9,350	11,462	2,112		23,800		
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT		54,810	0	0	0		0		
NEW MEMBER INITIATIONS		66,300	54,000	50,600	-3,400		54,000	18 new members	
TOTAL AVAILABLE		171,175	63,350	62,062	-1,288		77,800		
CAPITAL PURCHASES (1)		-103,040	-70,000	-78,470	-8,470		-70,000		
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) (68,135	-6,650	-16,408	-9,758		7,800	1.5%	

(1) Capital Purchases: 07 Awning betw. Crt 12 & 13; Replace Well pump; Finish Crt 12 & 13 brick; Refurbish Pool Chaises; Replace rug in tennis house; new upper deck chairs; Improve Crt #9 drainage; Repair tennis Bldg. Roof; Replace BackBoard surface & fencing; paddle hut deck installation; New Water Heater; Arbor Vitae for Paddle courts; Gourmet frozen Ice machine for Snuggery (06 profits); sandblast & paint tennis light poles; new parking lot light.

(2) Surplus 06 vs. 07 Last year's surplus was due to two significant events: first the fiscal year was only 11 months long as the fiscal year was changed back from October to September; second, capital purchases with the exception of the new hard court were very limited. Most projects were carried to the '07 year.