

December 2014

Editor: Jim Matchett

I love December. It usually is a great time for family and we are given the opportunity to spend some fun times with friends. It is also a time we should be thinking about those who are less fortunate than ourselves and doing what we can to make their lives brighter.

As far as curling is concerned, I guess I could extend that last sentence to those who curl against my curling team. Some missed shots by our opposition would go a long way to making our team's Christmas a lot brighter.



Check out our Facebook Site
<http://tinyurl.com/m6q5pji>

And on our [Website](#): Photos of
Masquerade & Opening Dinner



Some of you long-time members will remember **John Marshall**. John was president of this club in 1966. He passed away on November 20 just 2 days before his 97th birthday.

There will be no Nativity Scene in Ottawa this year.

This isn't for any religious reason. They simply have not been able to find Three Wise Men in the Nation's Capital. A search for a Virgin continues. There was no problem, however, finding enough asses to fill the stable.

What Has Been Happening Around Here?

As most of you know, Mark Romer and Bonnie Soutar, while fairly new members of our club, are taking a very active part. Both are members of the Board.

When they joined our club only a short number of years ago, they became curious about a number of things in our club such as who the different people were in the club, what was the history behind some of the competitions and who were the people whose names were on the various trophies.

As mentioned in the November ROAR, Mark has begun a Communications Project. One of the goals is to find out the answers to the above questions and to communicate the answers by developing a better image on our website and other media outlets in order to inform existing members and attract potential new ones.

Numerous club members have begun supplying Mark with information and Bonnie has begun to interview some past presidents of our club so everyone, especially those fairly new to the club, can learn something of our history and the people that formed part of this history.

So here is the first in a series (if you like the idea.....).

Movers and Shakers – Sandra Jones

When I asked Jim if I could contribute to the ROAR by interviewing members of the Club and writing about them, he thought it would help us get to know each other better BUT he wondered how to decide whom to begin with? We thought members might enjoy finding out about some of our Past Presidents – who they are and what in heaven’s name made them decide to take on the challenging volunteer role of President!

Sandra Jones has been curling at Montreal West, her icy home away from home, for close to 40 yrs. and boy has she seen some big changes along the way! When she met her soul mate **Ed Jones**, he had curled in the past and they sometimes went to events at the Thistle Club where his Dad curled.



They joined MW together in the vibrant heyday of the Club when every social event was sold out and there were waiting lists to join the club – you had to have a sponsor and letter of recommendation to get in! Day Ladies counted over 100 members when Sandra became their league president, Fridays had 3 draws and the popular Mixed Bonspiels lasted 2 or 3 days each. Every curler wore the Club Green and Gold uniform out on the ice for every game. There was action day and night and the bar was hopping. Drinking and driving was the accepted norm....

New Year’s Eve parties were legend and every New Year’s Day Levee saw members touring around to other local clubs exchanging good wishes and toasting the Year ahead. But wait! The Levee was for men only! So were Saturdays and certain other events.

Changing times called for action.

Sandra was encouraged to join the Board by **Myke Wilder** (another PP for a future article) and her hesitation was quashed by Ed – “Sandra if you are going to talk the talk you’d better be prepared to walk the walk”. She signed on because she firmly believed the Club still had room to grow in its acceptance of women as equal members.

When she became the club's very first female President in 2002, the difficult challenges at the beginning gave way to new support and friendships as members witnessed her professional respect for old traditions while she forged ahead to create new ones. The recognition of women as completely equal members is the biggest change she has seen in her time here.

Sandra has played in most of the leagues in the past, organized countless bonspiels with Ed and taught many new curlers the basics of the sport. She is a level 2 instructor with Curling Quebec and is presently giving technical clinics to Wednesday EHL members and playing in Day Ladies. She'd love to see more participation in club activities and is hoping to see everyone playing in the Calcutta.

Introduce yourself to her when you see her around – she'd love to meet you!

Pulling in behind him, the trooper got out of his vehicle and walked up to the Corvette. He looked at his watch, then said, "Sir, my shift ends in 30 minutes. Today is Friday. If you can give me a new reason for speeding – a reason I've never before heard – I'll let you go.."

The old gentleman paused then said, "Three years ago my wife ran off with a Florida State Trooper.. I thought you were bringing her back."

"Have a good day, sir," replied the trooper.

Entertainment

Here's a report from **Shelley Walsh**:

Opening Dinner:

We had a great attendance (54) for this event. Everyone looked great especially those in masquerade masks.

We had a contest for the best mask and the winners were..ta da....

Best female mask - **Bonnie Soutar**
Best male mask: - **Steve Holdaway**

The prize for this was \$25 Bar Dollars.

(Editor's note: There is no truth to the rumour that I received a prize for the best person without a mask who should always wear one.)

KUDOS

to Adam Freilich and Team Israel who competed at the European Curling Championships in Switzerland.



KUDOS

To our Junior Team :
Dominique Jean, Emily Riley, Dominique Renaud, Melissa Dunn & coach Marc Renaud for qualifying for the Junior Provincial Championship in Quebec City (Jan 3-8, 2015)

KUDOS

To all the MWCC teams who played in the Grand Match & Grande Dame on Nov 22. The club placed 2nd in both groups.

KUDOS

To our day curlers who organized and competed in the 1st Montreal West Super Senior Open Bonspiel

KUDOS

to Steve Holdaway, Matt Mitchell, Zack Wise, Rob Derry and Brian Williams who competed at the Provincial Circuit Finals in Trois Rivieres & the Casino de Charlevoix Challenge.

KUDOS

to Nicholas Backman, Alex Hall, Marc-Antoine Paquette-Biron & Greg Stachura who also competed in the Elite section of the Casino de Charlevoix Challenge.

The winners of the 2 sets of Alouettes tickets donated by John Ford were:

Shirley Elliot & Joann Berg

And the Big Winner of the Free Membership was:

Rob Philion. – check out **Rob’s BIG SMILE** >>>



Sooooo many people I would like to thank:

- Cathy Hughes & Anne Mitchell For always giving me great advice, letting me know where to find things, and how things are done.
- Rob Williams, Zack Wise, Nancy Duplessis, Shirley Elliot, Heather Boyle, Don Mackenzie, and Craig Brander For helping me decorate the hall for which we received many compliments
- Steve Holdaway and Zack Wise For helping me clean up the hall.
- John Ford For donating the 4 Alouettes football tickets
- Heather Boyle & Mark Romer For the amazing pictures of the night.

Rob Williams hosted the event with great success so thank you Rob for making us smile during dinner.

Tony from Brasserie Beauharnois supplied a lovely meal, and **Westminster Florist** supplied us with wonderful flowers.

I am reserving my last big thank you to **all of you** who attended. It was a nice evening and it was great to see everyone.

8-Ball Pool Tournament

It has started with great success. Thank you **Randy Fraser** for the great idea and wonderful organization of this event. The winner will be named next month.

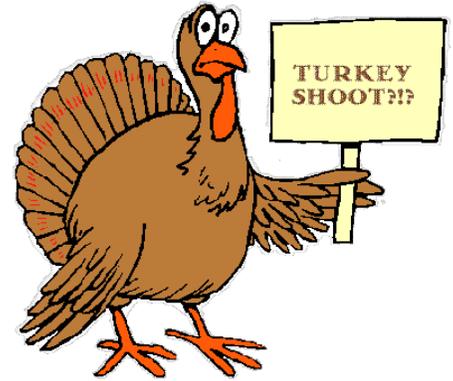
A student essay stated: The girl tumbled down the stairs and lay prostitute at the bottom."

In the margin of the paper, the professor commented: "My dear sir, you must learn to distinguish between a fallen woman and one who has merely slipped."



Turkey Shoot

The date is Monday, December 22nd. Once again Bill Bedford and Ed Jones will be rounding up the turkeys for the competition. I'm not talking about some of you curlers. I am referring to the birds.



The competition is open to all curlers. The signup sheet should be up now, but if it isn't, I suspect the turkeys have removed it. This is not their favourite night.

However, it is a night enjoyed by everyone else. So, don't miss out. Sign up early because this is always a popular event and the first 64 to sign up will be accepted.

It will be a lot of fun for everyone but the turkeys. There will be two runs with the first one starting at 6:30 p.m. then a break after 4 ends to enjoy some food while the 2nd group gets on the ice at 7:30 p.m.

There is no other curling that week. It promises to be a great evening. Come curl with your friends just before Christmas. The cost is \$15.

Silent Auction

Shhhh! Cathy Hughes will be making a full report in the January ROAR.

Dogs have owners ~ Cats have staff.

Match

Here is a report from **Kerry Laughlin**:



Ladder

All is going well. We finished the 1st round in the Past Presidents. Teams **Russell Haliburton** and **Mark Phillion** moved up to the A section while teams **Dave Dubeau** and **Mark Watson** moved down to the B.

Teams - please remember that spares must be recorded on the spare list or emailed to me.

Soon to be held bonspiels:

As you will have read a little earlier in this ROAR, the poster for the famous and fun **Turkey Shoot** is up. Don't miss the fun.

As well, the **Vice Presidents Fun Spiel** will take place Friday, January 2. Watch for the signup sheet.

Grand Match and Grand Dame

We had a fantastic show of club support for this event this year with 9 men's teams and 4 women's teams. It truly paid off with a remarkable result of placing 2nd in both events.

Many thanks to all those who participated. Also many thanks to the teams who played at MWCC for helping with welcoming and hosting our guests.

Day Ladies

Here is a report from **Rosemary Cochrane**:

Don't forget the Day Ladies Luncheon Bridge on December 10th.
And, Happy Holidays to everyone in the club from the Day Ladies.

Children may be deductible but they are still taxing.

Wednesday Evening House League

Here's a report from **Geneviève Lemieux**:

(Editor's note: My apologies to Geneviève and her many readers in the ROAR.
She did give me a report last month that somehow I managed to forget to put into the November ROAR. Can't be old age or can it?)

Hello all!

This year again EHL features 36 regular members divided into 9 teams. Our first game was held on October 8th and we began the new season with our traditional wine and cheese.

We play two half seasons, shuffling the teams after Christmas. Each half season is built on a round robin format followed by two weeks of playoffs. We are always in need of spares so if you are interested, please contact our Match Chairman, Mr Mark Romer.

This year the big question is: Will Mike Allen beat his 2013-2014 record of 5 wins at the Half and Half? Well, we should rename that the *Half and Half and Half...*

Bonjour à tous

Cette année encore la ligue maison du mercredi soir compte 36 joueurs réguliers formant 9 équipes. Notre premier match s'est tenu le 8 octobre et nous avons célébré le début de la saison de curling avec un vin et fromage.



Chaque demi-saison comprend un tournoi à la ronde suivi par deux semaines d'éliminatoires. Nous avons toujours besoin de joueurs remplaçants alors si ça vous intéresse, merci de contacter Mark Romer à ce sujet.

La question de l'année : Mike Allen battra-t-il son record 2013-2014 de 5 victoires au moitié-moitié ? En laissera-t-il un peu pour les autres ?

EHL November Update

The Fall contest is more than halfway through and we have some teams well out in front. **Team Tellier** leads the pack with a 6-2 record followed closely behind by **Team Dubeau** at 6-1 (with a game in hand).

Over the few past weeks Bonnie Soutar has worked to organize clinics to assist players with their delivery and technique. Many thanks to coaches **Rob Phillion, Adam Freilich** and **Sandra Jones** for providing their expertise to our league members .

La saison d'automne est déjà bien avancée et pour l'instant, l'équipe Tellier est en tête, talonnée, par l'équipe Dubeau. Grâce à l'initiative de Bonnie Soutar, plusieurs joueurs ont pu bénéficier de cliniques pour améliorer leur technique. Merci à nos entraîneurs Rob Phillion, Adam Freilich et Sandra Jones pour leur disponibilité et leurs conseils grandement appréciés.

*Yesterday is history
Tomorrow is a mystery
Today is a gift
That's why it is called the present.*

Mixed Day Curling

Here's a notice from James Botsford:

Mixed Day Curling Christmas Luncheon.

The date for our Christmas luncheon is **Thursday, December 18th**, starting at noon.

The Luncheon is open to all members of the club, friends and family.

This will be a roast beef luncheon with all the trimmings (TONY), table wine (red and white) followed by a wonderful holiday musical presentation by songstress Carole Desmarteau. Jacques will also be running his MAXI half & half draw, and the Curling Choir will also be performing.

(Editor's Note: Please do not use the voices of the Curling Choir as an excuse not to show up.)

A note from the songstress, **Carole Desmarteau:**

“I’m a French-Canadian, born in Ville St. Laurent. I have always had musical talent since I was a little girl, when my father would bring me to play the piano for the nuns when I was maybe 5 years old (I play by ear). My music background is simply my life. I have always loved singing since as far as I can remember, going door to door as a young girl singing Christmas Carols (my specialty was harmony), as well as singing along with my parents' records in our basement and being in a band when I was a teen.

I have been entertaining "professionally" now for about 10 years after people told me that I should share my God-given talent with others. I love the old songs and making people happy is what I love to do. If my singing can put a smile on someone's face or help them to remember good times or to temporarily forget their problems, then I have accomplished what I have striven for.”

The cost for the Christmas luncheon is \$25, players and guests.
The caterer requires an exact count, so please see Mike Homonko, at the club, or contact him at 514-426-1389.

Let’s end the 1st half of the curling season in the company of good friends and new friends.

Interclub:

Here's a report from **Chip Mowat:**

On Oct 29, we were at St Lambert where we won 2 and lost 1. The winning teams were:

Joe Balogh	Rick Hughes	Bob Carson	Dave Dubeau
Ray Dubrule	Mike Homonko	Bob Lemesurier	Jean-Marie Martin

On Oct 31, Glenmore was at MWCC and we split the wins. Our winning teams were:

Mike Homonko	Doug Allan	Nick DiPietro	Jacques Lacroix
Maureen Custy	Ray Dubrule	Rick Hughes	James Botsford

On Nov 6, we were at Lonque Pointe where we tied one game. Our tying team was:

Tim Curran	Joe Balogh	Doug Allan	Jean-Marie Martin
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On Nov 19, Ville Mont Royal was at our club and we split the wins. The winning teams were:

Cyril Bernard	Rick Hughes	Bob Carson	Dave Dubeau
Ray Dubrule	Doug Allan	Bert Mombourquette	Jean-Marie Martin

(Editor's note) Wow! 6 wins and a tie in these 4 events. Chip's coaching is really starting to pay dividends.

1st Montreal West Super Senior Open Bonspiel

Here's a report from **Ray Debrule**:

This bonspiel was held on November 5th.

We had 2 complete draws with teams from the greater Montreal area, Québec and Ontario. The men and women who participated in this limited format (2 draws instead of 3), had a great time.

As usual, the spiel was a great success. It went off like clockwork. Special thanks to all the volunteers. Without you, such events would not be possible.

Here are the results:

1 st Draw	1 st prize	Pointe Claire (Bob Suderman)
	2 nd prize	Laval (Yoland Aumont)
	3 rd prize	Laval (Michel Legault)
2 nd Draw	1st prize	St. Lambert (Neil Alexander)
	2nd prize	Brownsburg (Richard Downing)
	3rd prize	Hawkesbury (Serge Sauvé)

Our next Super Senior Open Bonspiel will be held on Wednesday, January 14th.

The little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because, even though it was a very large mammal, its throat was very small.

The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale.

Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was basically impossible.

The little girl said, "When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah."

The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?"

The little girl replied, "Then you ask him."

Instructional League

Here is a report from **Jim Doyle**:

There are 12 people currently in the Instructional. Four of those are also playing in the Wilkinson.

Junior Curling

Here is a report from **Trish Dempsey**:

November was quite a busy month for the juniors. A very successful first league game was played at the Halloween party – standings will be posted on the Junior bulletin board by the second week of December. Two teams embarked on out-of-town tournaments over the weekend of November 14th, and there are even more spiels to follow suit in December and early January.

The Centre Civique de Dolbeay-Mistassini hosted the second qualifying tournament for the Junior Provincial Championship November 14-16. Team Jean (**Dominique Jean, Emily Riley, Dominique Renaud** and **Melissa Dunn**, coached by **Marc Renaud**) clinched a spot in the championship – which will be held at the Club de Curling Etchemin, in Quebec City January 3-8 – with a solid win late Saturday night over one of last year's qualifying teams.

They even came within an inch of taking an 8-ender early in their second game, when the attempt at a runback takeout just missed the shot stone. The entire club had their eyes glued to the glass for that shot! The girls finished third in the tournament and lost the consolation final to last year's second ranked team from Dolbeau/Kénogami. They next play in Laval-sur-le-lac the last weekend of November – stay tuned for results in the January ROAR.

Also during the weekend of November 14-16, our other competitive team played their first tournament of the season in Sorel-Tracy: **Danny Bell, Chris Byrne, Tyler Watson, Tyler Rowley** and **Simon Marcotte** (coached by **Mark Watson**). They had an exceptionally tiring schedule on Saturday. It included both the 8:30 a.m. draw and the 8:00 p.m. draw, with a third game in the middle that even went on to a ninth end.

Despite the crazy schedule, the boys (also known as *The Boyz!*) came in fourth place, after losing the consolation final. They next play at the Tim Caverly Bonspiel between Christmas and New Year's.

In other exciting World Curling news, we are proud to extend positive vibes to our very own Junior Alumni, **Adam Freilich**, as he skips Team Israel at the European Curling Championships in Champéry, Switzerland. Having coached Adam and his MWCC Junior team for several years, **Rob Phillion**, also accompanied Team Israel on their adventure in late November. Let's go, boys!

Last, but certainly not least, we would greatly like to acknowledge the following club members who have shared their passion for curling and volunteered their time with the Juniors at practices: **Marianne Lynch, Martin Jacobs, Shirley Elliott** and **Francine Pilon**.

If you are interested in helping to mold the future generation of MWCC curlers, please contact us with your Saturday morning availability for the new year and we would love to have you join us on the ice.

The *Little Rocks* program (ages 8-11) is 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. and they work mainly on ice safety, the basic delivery, and sweeping. Practices typically end with a “hogline game”. The *Big Rocks* program (ages 12-21) is 10:30 a.m.- 1:00 pm and is comprised of specific skill refinement, basic strategies and ends with a 3- or 4-end game.

Coming up in the Junior program:

- December 20: Holiday party and Myke Wilder League game #2
- December 27-29: Tim Caverly Bonspiel
- January 10: First practice of the New Year
(Little Rocks 9:30 a.m. and Big Rocks 10:30 a.m.)
- TBA: Clothing orders! Stay tuned for more information...

On behalf of the Junior Committee, we would like to wish you a very happy and healthy holiday season. See you in the New Year.

- Little Rocks:** Mark Watson (514-488-5943 or A050@sympatico.ca)
- Big Rocks:** Trish Dempsey (438-822-0152 or trish.dempsey@hotmail.com)
- Membership:** Janet Walpole (514-246-8099 or janet.walpole@sympatico.ca)

“Waiter, come here at once,” the agitated diner called. “Can you explain why there is a footprint in the middle of my food?”

“Yes, sir. You ordered an omelette and told me to step on it.”

Wilkinson Team

Here's a report from **Jim Doyle**:

The first session of the Wilkinson has finished and the second started November 21st. Everyone seems to be having fun. Here is the final standings from the first session.

Team	Played	Won	Lost	Tied	Defaulted	Points
1. Michel Jean	7	7	0	0	0	21
2. Howie Myers	7	5	1	1	0	18
3. Rob Philion	7	3	3	1	0	14
4. Terry Hobbs	7	3	4	0	0	13
5. Jim Doyle	7	2	4	1	0	12
6. J.M Martin	7	2	4	1	0	12
7. John Ford	7	2	5	0	0	11
8. James Botsford	7	2	4	1	1	10

As you will have no doubt read in Shelly Walsh's Entertainment section, there is currently a double knockout pool tournament underway. Randy Fraser is the organizer.

Wilkinson TGIF

Here's a report from **Mark Romer**:

The TGIF gang completed their first Draw of the season this past month. Two teams tied for first place with a 3-1 record. (Tellier and Murray). Congratulations to them and all TGIF curlers for coming out and lighting up the sheets on Friday nights.

Randy Fraser
Patricia Cogen
Bonnie Soutar
Claude Tellier

Laura Kobayashi
Elise Thomas
Michael Fagan
Trevor Murray

In other news, we are looking for more players for the Winter session starting in January.

Carpet Bowling

Here's a report from **PK MacWilliam**

We lost a few bowlers but we have 10 players every week which is pretty good. We are going to have our Christmas luncheon on December 9th.

We are looking for someone to help roll up the carpet after our games on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. We have been doing it ourselves but the carpets are very heavy. We need an able bodied man. **Any volunteers?**

An elderly man was stopped by the police around 2:00 a.m. and was asked where he was going at that time of night.

He replied, I'm on my way to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body, as well as smoking and staying out late."

The officer then asked, Really? Who's giving that lecture at this time of night?"

The man replied, That would be my wife."

WMSCL Curling

Here's a report from **Alan Bousquet**:

No one is pulling ahead with 6 games played but, I hear the bottom 4 teams are devising a surprise for the top 4. More to come next month!!!!



Standings as of November 16

Team	Won	Tied	Lost	Points
1 Howie Myers	5	0	1	16
2 Dianne Huculak	4	1	1	15
3 James Botsford	4	0	2	14
4 Anthony Altobello	3	1	2	13
5 Alan Bousquet	3	0	3	12
6 Gary Palmer	1	2	3	10
7 Rick Hughes	0	0	6	6



*Wife texts husband on a cold winter's morning: Windows frozen, won't open.
 Husband texts back: Gently pour some lukewarm water over it."
 Wife texts back five minutes later: Computer really screwed up now."*



Canfir is a mixed social curling league of various ages and skill levels. We play Sunday mornings from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, followed by a light lunch. If you are interested in sparing for Canfir, please send an email to canfircurling@gmail.com or call Nancy Duplessis (Canfir President) at 514-962-0052.



STANDINGS AS OF SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23



Teams	Games Won	Games Lost	Games Tied	Total Points
1. Bob LeMesurier	2	3	1	11
2. Francine Pilon	2	4	0	10
3. Danny Boyd	3	3	0	12
4. Luc Arseneau	4	2	0	14
5. Pierre Cadorette	5	0	1	17
6. Jean-Marie Martin	1	5	0	8
7. Rob Williams	4	2	0	14
8. Maxime Betournay	2	4	0	10



We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the **Canfir Curling Committee** for the 2014-2015 season. Pictured from left to right are **Harvey Artsob** (Vice-President), **Luc Arseneau** (Treasurer), **Nancy Duplessis** (President) and **Mike Allen** (Secretary, Stats Keeper).

A big shout out and thanks to Canfir's Cleaning Crew, Rob Williams, Pierre Cadorette, Martin Jacobs, Luc Arseneau and Danny Boyd who help clean and maintain our ice before every game. It is very much appreciated. Great sweep, guys!

Please take a moment to check out our **Facebook** page for the latest buzz about our league and the curling world. While you're there, don't forget to "Like" our page.

What's Happening Over the Next Few Weeks?

- December 9 - Carpet Bowlers Christmas Luncheon
- 10 - Day Ladies' Luncheon Bridge
- 16 - Day Ladies' Fun Day and Luncheon
- 18 - Mixed Day Curling Christmas Luncheon
- 20 - Junior Holiday Party
- 22 - Turkey Shoot
- 27-29 - Tim Caverly Bonspiel
- January 2 - Vice President's Funspiel

You may not know this but many nonliving things have a gender.

***Ziploc Bags** are Male, because they hold everything in, but you can see right through them.*

*A **Tire** is Male, because it goes bald and it's often over-inflated.*

*A **Hot Air Balloon** is Male, because, to get it to go anywhere, you have to light a fire under it, and of course, there's the hot air part.*

*A **Web Page** is Female, because it's always getting hit on.*

*A **Subway** is Male, because it uses the same old lines to pick up people.*

*A **Remote Control** is Female. Ha! (You thought it'd be male, didn't you?) But consider this - it gives a man pleasure, he'd be lost without it, and while he doesn't always know the right buttons to push, he keeps trying!*

The MWCC Communications Project
Mark Romer

BLAST from The PAST!

Following requests for material related to the club’s history, I was approached by June Gray, who supplied me with photos and articles from the archives of her late husband “Doddy” Gray. In this month’s closing shot, I present a collection of well-dressed curlers who may or may not be celebrating Halloween. Thanks June!.

