



# Chess Club Observer

Newsletter of the Springfield Chess Club

Autumn 2014-- Vol. 17, No. 4

President: Tom Knoedler  
Vice President: Evan Gresen  
Secretary: *vacant*

Treasurer: David Long  
Publicity Director: *vacant*  
<http://www.springfieldchessclub.com>

## Pete and Tian Split Another Tourney

On October 4 and 5, the Springfield Chess Club held the Frederick Ekstrom Memorial Open, its first two-day tournament since the 2005 Land of Lincoln Open in Hopedale. Fourteen chess players came to share in the fun and the prizes.

For the second tournament in a row, Pete Karagianis, of Bloomington, and Tian Lu Peng, of Springfield, shared first and second place. They drew in their own game and defeated their four other opponents, for a final score of 4½. There was a four-way tie for third place, including first in classes B and C. Evan Gresen and Thomas Knoedler, both of Springfield; Joseph Willett, of Rock Island, and Ishaar Ganesan, of Bloomington, each scored 3 points. In class E, there was another tie. Joseph Clark, of Carlinville, and Sonnet Henderson, of Champaign, each had 1 point.

Since Round 2 finished unusually quickly, there was enough time for the club to organize an impromptu quick-chess tourney, double round robin with four players.

Frederick's daughters, Maggie and Marsha, were present to open the second round by telling the story of their chess-enthusiast father and showing his pictures. A copy of their speech is included on page 2.

Complete results of the tournament, including the pickup quick tourney, are on page 3.

## Next Tournament In the Works

Our next tournament is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 14, at Douglas United Methodist Church. More information to follow in the next issue.

## Welcome New Members

H. Bryan Brooksbank, of Williamsville, and Joseph Clark, of Carlinville, have joined the Springfield Chess Club. Welcome to the club! Membership now stands at 15.

## It's Almost Election Time!

The SCC's Board of Directors elections are coming up! Nominations will be held at our regular meeting on Wednesday, November 5. According to our bylaws, both the nominator and the nominee must be present at the meeting and cannot be the same person. If no one is nominated for a particular office, the incumbent is automatically renominated (even if he is not present.) If any offices are contested, the election will be held Wednesday, December 3, at our regular meeting.

# Time to Renew!

Most SCC memberships will expire on December 31. (Check your mailing label to see if yours is among them.) If your membership is expiring, use the membership form on page 2 to renew soon! Annual membership dues remain at \$8.

## **Maggie and Marsha's speech at the Frederick Ekstrom Memorial Open**

Thank you all for coming to participate in this tournament to honor the memory of our father. We are grateful to the Springfield Chess Club for making the arrangements.

Frederick Ekstrom was born on July 25, 1919 in Brooklyn, New York, a son of Swedish immigrants. He learned to play chess as a boy, taught by his Swedish uncle, and he remained an avid chess enthusiast for the rest of his life. He participated in several tournaments, including one held in 1941 at Colgate University in upstate New York, where he won the trophy cup for first place in Class B of the New York State Chess Association Congress.

On October 12, 1942, he married his childhood sweetheart, Margaret Davidson Gordon, a Scottish immigrant and Registered Nurse. During World War II, he served in the Army Air Corps, stationed at Scott Field and then in the Pacific.

After the war, he attended City College of New York on the GI Bill and later graduated with a Master's Degree in accounting from New York University. He worked for several organizations in New York City, including Madison Square Garden and Wm. W. Fitzhugh, Inc. Throughout the years, Dad played postal chess regularly and maintained a lifetime subscription to *Chess Life* magazine.

After retirement in 1985, our parents lived for several years in Howell, New Jersey. Then in 2001, they moved to Carlinville, Illinois, to be near their younger daughter Marsha Meredith and her family. Our father continued to play chess on the computer and occasionally with a friend (Joe Clark, who is here today.) To keep up with the game, he also joined the Springfield Chess Club as a corresponding member.

I learned many things from my father, including an interest in languages and a love of baseball, tennis, swimming and pinochle. I never quite caught on to chess but I appreciated the game for its multicultural heritage and its artistic pieces.

Our mother died in December 2009 and our father followed her on June 16, 2013 – a month short of his 94th birthday.

His children are pleased to support this memorial tournament in his honor. Good luck to all of you. Thank you.

# Complete Results, October 4-5, 2014

Seed	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Total
1	Pete Karagianis	2275	W-8	W-4	D-2	W-5	W-3	4½
2	Tian Lu Peng	2079	W-9	W-5	D-1	W-3	W-10	4½
3	Scott Nelson	1793	W-10	W-6	W-7	L-2	L-1	3
4	Ishaar Ganesan	1759	W-11	L-1	W-9	L-10	W-7	3
5	Evan Gresen	1687	W-12	L-2	W-11	L-1	D-8	2½
6	Joseph Bean	1613	W-13	L-3	L-10	L-7	W-12	2
7	Mihir Bafna	1569	W-14	D-8	L-3	W-6	L-4	2½
8	Thomas Knoedler	1557	L-1	D-7	W-12	W-9	D-5	3
9	Jimmie Cecil	1503	L-2	W-12	L-4	L-8	W-11	2
10	Joseph Willett	1497	L-3	FWIN	W-6	W-4	L-2	3
11	Joseph Clark	940	L-4	FWIN	L-5	L-12	L-9	1
12	Sonnet Henderson	547	L-5	L-9	L-8	W-11	L-6	1
13	Siddarth Bangaru	unr.	L-6	FORF	----	----	----	0
14	Shashidhar Bangaru	unr.	L-7	FORF	----	----	----	0

Seed	Name	QRating	1	2	3	4	Total
1	David Long	1934	--	LW	WW	DD	4
2	Scott Nelson	1630	WL	--	WW	DL	3½
3	Mihir Bafna	1500	LL	LL	--	WL	1
4	Ishaar Ganesan	1423	DD	DW	LW	--	3½

## Meetings

The Springfield Chess Club meets weekly on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the White Oaks Mall food court, and also meets twice a month, on the second and fourth Friday of each month, from 6:30 to 10 p.m. in the café section of Barnes & Noble. Both locations are near the corner of Route 4 and Wabash Ave.

## Area Tournament Schedule

Date	City	Reg Ends	Contact	Phone
(no tournaments found)				

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

USCF ID (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Check to withhold address from publication in newsletter.

Check to withhold phone number from publication.

Annual dues are currently **\$8**.

Make checks payable to:  
Springfield Chess Club.

Bring to club, or mail to:

Springfield Chess Club  
David Long, Treasurer  
401 S. Illinois St.  
Springfield, Ill. 62704