



# The Capon Weekly

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Saturday, August 22, 2009

CAPON SPRINGS, WV

## Front Porch chatter....

The overwhelming story this week was the pack of kids ages 7-12 who "took over" all the activities. Yet on Wednesday evening, it was the 6 and under set who received special treatment with the traditional Kiddie Sing-a-long. This year, Ben Ferdon and Bob Rosenberg led the festivities on ukulele and guitar, while Jonathan Bellingham joined in with his recorder. Traditional songs like "Twinkle Twinkle" and "Itsy Bitsy Spider" rang out from the Main living room. The grand finale was orchestrated by Tom & Spencer Walsh with all of their noses helping to create an original Old MacDonald's farm full of dinosaurs, anteaters and even a shark.

It was evident early that the elementary set was in charge. For Monday night's hayride a second wagonful was needed to accommodate all the young people. The first trip featured 5-8 year olds and a lightning and thunder show in the distance. That meant the second trip was cut short, going around the grounds loop and the lower parking lot, instead of all the way to Hog Heaven. The abbreviated trip proved necessary. As the second trip was unloading, the heavens opened up with a toad-hopping downpour. The last several youth riders got another bath that night provided by Mother Nature.



## Historical Heroes

Kim Masters had something to say concerning the recently released Quentin Tarantino movie about an American Jewish death squad who fought the Nazis. She knows the real story first hand since her father Peter was part of the secret British commando group who bravely accomplished the premise of the film. "Instead of telling the actual events which are more interesting than the fiction, his violent movie makes a cartoonish mockery of the real heroes," explains Kim.



Meanwhile, another movie is about to be made covering another WWII hero involving Kim's mother Alice. She will be heading to Prague Sept. 1 for the 70th anniversary of the Kinder transport, which was organized by Sir Nicholas Winton to save Czech children from the holocaust. This event coincides with his 100th birthday. The Winton Train will take the original 1251km route from Prague to London. The goal is to inspire young people to copy the deeds of Sir Winton.

In 1939, the first of eight trains which left from Prague carrying 250 children did not make its final destination. "I was on the 7th train that left Prague in July," recalls Alice, who along with her sister, will be two of only 70 people selected to make this return voyage honoring those heroic actions that saved the lives of over a thousand children.

## Know your Capon History...



Lisa Ham and Sallie Permar used their cunning and super sleuthing skills during this year's edition of the code-cracking Caponchase. This time they included their mom, Ann who is celebrating the 60th anniversary of her first Capon visit. (As in the last 4 weeks, a survey was taken to locate all the other regulars who dated back to the early years. The results: Doug Miller, Beetle Bailey, Katy Gude, Helen Walsh, Alice Masters, Anne Masters, Kim Masters, Bill Graeff, David Meacham and Bonnie Hanson all made their first Capon trip over half a century ago. These families experienced Capon for the first time in the 1960s: Kashap, Weston, Bailey, Permar, Solli, Walsh, Masters, Miller and Clark.)

Still, you didn't have to be a Capon old-timer to participate in the Caponchase—but it helped. Families, siblings and friends joined forces as a record 11 teams filled Wednesday afternoon with the 2009 edition. Solving three clues, finding the "super secret" clue and reaching the final answer were all part of the code-cracking fun. Gamemaster Jonathan Bellingham showed up at his appointed 4:00pm time to check the progress of each team. This week's participants did a great job of discovering the historical evidence and exploring unfamiliar places around Capon. Two teams arrived at the finish line about



the same time. With time bonuses and penalties muddying the matter, a tie was declared. Team "East Coast Girls": Emily Ferdon, Elizabeth Ervin and Bailey Ham deciphered fast enough to tie Lisa Ham, Sallie Permar and Ann Permar for the custom-designed Capon water bottle.

## Swing and a hit!



Sponge Bob was back, filled with candy and ready for a good hit. As this year's pinata, kids took turns trying to knock the sweets out of him. Hanging from another branch was a happy-faced moon, which the younger set also took aim. Security was recalled from last year as Hannah Quinn and William Ervin took their posts to make sure all were kept safe. As the paper mache creatures belched their treats to the ground, kids dived to get the good stuff for themselves. With all that commotion, the traditional adult softball game got a late start. With so few teens and collegians, the age cut-off was 35. Kenny Gude appreciated that as he reclaimed his position on the youth squad. Hayes Permar whipped his young team into shape, and himself with an upset tummy to create a commanding lead. Until the next to last inning, when the older folks rallied to tie and then go ahead in the top of the final stretch. It took a line drive by Burt Grinstead to knock in the winning run. Great defense was illustrated all night long, especially by first basemen for the youth, Joe Grinstead. Still, when team captain Hayes led the celebration of their first win in 7 years, he credited Andy Weitzel's walking home run as the key to their success.



## PING PONG PADDLING



When so many youth signed up for the table tennis tourney Thursday, a very young cut-off of age division developed. It reflected the standard Capon arrangement that once you reached 13, you are considered an adult. Starting 15 minutes earlier than usual allowed for the packed and sweaty group of participants and spectators to finish before steak time. Still, it was over an hour from the first rally until the top seeded player picked up a paddle. That honor went to last year's kid champion Mason Dowell, since there were no returning finalists from the adult division in 2008.

Without Mason to dominate the kid portion, last year's kid runner-up Caleb Miller had a straight shot to the final in his division. Only David Luttinger stood in his way. After a great back and forth match, the error-free Caleb took the title for himself. Meanwhile, Mason had to volley past Troy Osborne in the championship match to be crowned King Pong. To start it off right, he served first and took a 5-0 lead. Even though Troy fought back to tie it half way through, Mason pulled away to become one of the few to convert from youth to adult champion in one year.



## BOOMING BASKETBALL

When rain poured down from 4-6pm on Friday, the basketball free throw contest was rescheduled for after dinner. Much better weather was on display, though the shooting wasn't. Charlotte Masters set the mark at 50% and only 10% of the rest of the shooters could match it. Finally, Doug Miller hit 6 to break the tie and take the lead. A five throw shout-out for second meant Doug's son Rob only needed 2 to claim undisputed second place. (Last year, a pair of younger Miller cousins went first and second overall)

## Celebrations

### BIRTHDAYS



- 8/16 Don Ervin
- 8/18 Bob Rosenberg
- 8/18 Regan Westwood
- 8/19 Debra Hertz
- 8/19 Adam Senquitz
- 8/20 Loretta Weitzel

### ANNIVERSARIES

- 8/22 Patrick & Ashley Bailey
- 8/22 Jim & Jo Ann Seeley- 50th

## Calling all Callers

Wednesday's Bingo Bash was taken over by guest callers as a record eight volunteers made their way to the emcee's table. Veteran host Glenn Austin recruited Hayes Permar to open the program. He proceeded to take over to create a town hall meeting debate about health care. Hayes offered insight into who would be eligible to use the "senior" tees. Once he was heckled by a protester who questioned whether he had even read "The Little Me and the Great Me". Hayes then bellowed a special game of screwball.

Bob Rosenberg, Doug Rosenberg, Tom Walsh (and Spencer), Ann Permar, Bruce Ham, Patrick Bailey and Sallie Permar all took a turn at the caller's table.




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## Capon's Got Talent

After the biggest Capon Chorus of the season wowed the audience with two snappy tunes, the dancers took over. Aideen Gannon and Annie T. Ham boogied, while William Masters provided a Michael Jackson, complete with black hat, white glove and moon walk. Then Zoey Wilkins showed off her cheerleading skills, Katie Bellingham shared Scooby Doo and Paul Lytle provided some fancy tap footwork. Keyboardists were also plentiful as Owen  McKeever, Olivia Wright, Jonathan Miller, David Miller (with mom Leslie) and Caleb Miller all had piano pieces to offer. Then singers returned as Kaelen Cruise, Catlyn Senquiz and Kylie Rosenberg each offered their vocal talents.


Then the skits brought groups of Capon kids together for some fun entertainment. Delia Simson teamed up with Jen & Kim Osborne, Charlotte Masters, Leah Kaye,  Isabel Arnade and Regan Westwood for a rhythm routine of hand slapping on the stage. Cousins Emily & Saunders Ervin were joined by Lucy Ham and Julia Butler for a skit demonstrating little known Capon talents such as horsefly swatting, dessert eating and front porch sitting. Then it was time for the incredible enlarging machine built by Bailey Ham and Elizabeth Ervin. When they put a ping pong paddle, golf ball and flamingo inside they all came out extra large. Hugh  Butler wandered into the contraption by accident and out popped a larger version of himself (aka Hayes Permar).

Rob Miller brought back his juggling act, this time throwing a tennis ball, stuffed cow and flip flop all at the same time. Bob Rosenberg brought his guitar and his singing  partner Lila McNulty for a rousing version of "Almost Heaven". Patty Austin closed the program with an audio/video presentation of guests this week. The 20-plus minute show featured over 100 photos taken by Patty, Tom and Jonathan.


## Golfing Times



One putt made the difference in Tuesday's Pot Luck Best Ball Golf Tourney, as two teams had to settle for a tie for first place at four under par. Four other teams were only one stroke back as everyone shot par or better. Doug Rosenberg, David Ervin, Mike Westwood, Sam Quinn, Katy Gude and Meghan Apfelbaum needed to make a tricky 10 footer on green #9 to tie. That is just what they did on their very last try. Since lunch had already started, co-winners were declared. Chuck Collman, Pete Bailey, Dave Luttinger, Sam Kaye, Lanny Dowell and Meredith Apfelbaum shared the top prize of Apple Butter.

In Friday's action, a morning downpour pushed the start time to 10:00am. The rain showers did not bring thunder, but there were plenty of rumblings and grumbings about the putts that should have dropped. Six teams finish tied at 5 under par of 30, and all had a story to tell about the one that got away. All these folks took home apple butter. Ken Gude, Patrick Bailey, Ben Butler, Mason Dowell, Loretta Weitzel & Katie Apfelbaum; Tom Walsh, Dave Ervin, Dave Gannon, Ben Ferdon, Cara Offterdinger & Lanny Dowell; Jimmy Ervin, Kit Kashap, Hayes Permar, Joe Grinstead, Rich Solli & Julie  Luttinger; Ed Offterdinger, Dave Luttinger, Jr., Adam Senquiz, Kirk Wagner, Leslie Miller & Meredith Apfelbaum; Jay Miller, Stuart Schwager, Rich Farrell, Sam Quinn, Lauren Ellis & Caroline Ervin; Rob Kaye, Ricah Walsh, Clay McCuiston, Elizabeth Ervin & Donna Offterdinger.

## RUNNERS WORLD

After a mild sprinkling, the one mile race went off as scheduled despite the hot, humid, muggy Tuesday afternoon temperatures. Once again, quantity made up for quality as young kids filled the age group divisions. After starting with his daughter Eva (and seeing the leaders weren't that far out in front) Tim Arnade decided to take control and cruised to an easy victory in the relatively pedestrian 6:22. The next closest male was in 4th as sisters Katie & Meredith Apfelbaum went 2-3. Katie slowed from last year, but still was fastest female in 6:43. 

Male age group winners included: Ben Jefferds, Max Kaye, William Ervin, Doug Rosenberg and Ed Offterdinger. Female leaders included: Eva Arnade, Emily Ervin, Meredith Apfelbaum and Leslie Miller. After showing the judges what he could do last year, young Patrick Vitaniemi persevered again to become the first ever repeat winner of the best effort award. Thanks to all the race volunteers who kept the race results on track!

# Badminton Bounty



With a break in the rain, and a good brushing off of the puddles, the Friday afternoon mixed doubles pot luck badminton tourney started on time. After some last minute recruiting of some older players, the reshuffling of participants created some surprising combinations of guests. Beau Weston had to miss the first tourney last year when he left Capon early, but this time he joined Ryan Luttinger for a run into the semis. Played in a driving rain, they came from behind to best Cody Sherlock and Emily Ervin. Though the rain let up for the finals, they played the same trick with co-finalists Tyler Paulsen and Caleb Miller. Down by 3 match points, they clawed their way back from the deficit to force a trip to overtime. Beau and Ryan won that battle 12-10.

## TENNIS TRIUMPHS



This year, Hygeia body work didn't get in the way of the Mixed Doubles Tennis Tourney Wednesday— because hardly anyone signed up for court action! Despite the record numbers filling out the activity sheets for all the other sporting events this week (including the Talent Show), only at the last minute was the minimum requirement of eight teams met.

Both all weather courts were used as couples traded rallies at the net. During the middle of the third match, the heavens opened up and soaked the courts. The tourney was put on a one hour rain delay until 12 noon. While the upper court still had some puddles, the shade free lower all weather court dried out quickly enough to resume play. With only one hard surface available, Flight I moved down to the Har-Tru court, which had done a much better job absorbing the liquid sunshine. When Jimmy Ervin & Jeanie Collman played three straight matches and racked up 12 wins to shut out of their flight, the other teams were left to duke it out for second.

Meanwhile, Leslie Schwager, one year removed from her ripped Achilles from a Capon tennis tourney a year ago, was playing conservative but steady tennis to lead her partner Stuart to victory in Flight II. They just edged out one of their chief rivals, Andy Weitzel, who was playing with his mother Loretta for the first time since brother Billy was on a secret assignment in Yemen.

Both flights finished up around 12:48 giving just enough time for a standard 4-game format, but not enough for a full 6-game set. After some great volleys back and forth and one person from each team serving, the match was tied 1-1. Then Jeannie held serve to take her team up 2-1. That left Stuart to force the tied by taking advantage of his powerful wind-up. However, he lost the first three points and found himself facing triple match point. Jimmy & Jeannie kept the ball in play on the very next shot to win the top prize just after 1:00pm

# Puck People



Since all other sporting events were “filled to the gills”, why not the Thursday morning kids’ shuffleboard? For the first time in recorded Capon history, all sixteen slots were taken to fill a complete scorer’s bracket. That meant only half the players could step up to use the 4 courts in the first round. Great matches developed with cousin vs. cousin and brother vs. sister face-offs. No time had to be called as the scoring came at a steady rate. Defending champion Max Kaye with teammate Regan Westwood showed why he belongs near the top. Staring at certain defeat, with his last shuffle Max took away points from opponents and scored enough for his team to advance to the semis. Waiting for them were David Luttinger and Sarah Miller who had advanced past Aideen Gannon and her partner William Ervin. This time, instead of Max, it was Regan who scored the winning shot to put them in the title game.

On the other side, Max’s co-champion from 2008, Donal Gannon also advanced to the semis. This time his partner was Lucy Ham. They battled hard but lost to Caleb Miller and Jack Cruise. In a close championship match, Max and Regan piled on the points to win the cookies.



The adults had their usual packed tourney. As expected, the matches proceeded in an orderly fashion with previous contenders moving along toward the top of the chart. After being eliminated early last year, 2007 champs Doug & Jeannette Rosenberg opted out this year. Still, 2008 finalists Dave & Emily Rector showed up to play and pushed past several challenging matches to reach the semis once more. The only thing standing in the way of a repeat into the finals for them was Eric & Carrie Grinstead. The Rectors racked up the points in their semis to win and set up the classic face-off with the veterans of shuffleboards past, Ed & Sue Gannon. Come see the dramatic conclusion after dinner Saturday.