



**Celebrating 200 years  
of curling, camaraderie  
and competition**

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The front cover image was designed by Nigel Retchless and is the official curling pin of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Royal Kingston Curling Club.

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The Royal Kingston Curling Club  
130 Days Road  
Kingston, Ontario K7M 9G4

QUEEN ELIZABETH II



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

24th April, 2019

Dear Mr Cotton,

The Queen has asked me to thank you and Mr Edward Gibson, President of the Club's Board of Management for your letter in which you wished to tell Her Majesty of the forthcoming celebrations of the two hundredth anniversary of the Royal Kingston Curling Club in Ontario, Canada.

It was most thoughtful of you to wish to make The Queen aware of how much this special occasion means to the Club, and I would like to send you and everyone involved with the Royal Kingston Curling Club my congratulations at this time.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Jennie Vine, MVO  
Deputy Correspondence Coordinator



**Congratulations to the  
Royal Kingston Curling Club on  
200 years of history!**

The success of an organization is not only measured by its membership and accomplishments, but also by its leadership, its commitment to excellence and its ability to inspire others.

Founded in 1820, the Royal Kingston Curling Club is one of the oldest clubs of its kind in Canada, predating the Rideau Locks and even Confederation! It is a place where novices and experts alike can enjoy this famous Scottish sport and develop their strategic skills and agility.

The longevity of the club is impressive and far from being over. Today, the club comprises a vibrant community of more than 650 curlers.

As you – the members of the Royal Kingston Curling Club – look back on what has come before, be proud of what you have built together and look forward to another 200 years of sliding and sweeping.

Thank you to all the members and volunteers for your dedication and commitment to the “roaring game”.

All the best.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Julie Payette'.



Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette  
Governor General of Canada



PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

September 27, 2019

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Royal Kingston Curling Club.



Since it was founded in 1820, the Royal Kingston Curling Club has provided curlers of all ages and skill levels a chance to participate in this exciting sport. This milestone is a wonderful opportunity to reflect upon your organization's many accomplishments and to set goals for the future.

I would like to thank the members of the Royal Kingston Curling Club, past and present, for their hard work and dedication. You can take pride in your contributions to the community.

Please accept my best wishes for a memorable celebration and for every success in the years to come.

Sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Justin P. J. Trudeau, P.C., M.P.  
Prime Minister of Canada



Premier of Ontario - Premier ministre de l'Ontario

September 27, 2019

**A MESSAGE FROM PREMIER DOUG FORD**

I'm delighted to extend greetings to the Royal Kingston Curling Club on the occasion of its bicentennial, and to everyone attending tonight's gala dinner to celebrate this significant milestone.

Curling has long been a favourite sport and a significant part of social and cultural life in this province. It's no wonder that the Royal Kingston Curling Club has thrived throughout the past two centuries, and is now home to hundreds of appreciative curlers.

As this gala coincides with the start of the 2019 - 2020 curling season, I want to wish the very best of luck to all players. I also want to thank the many volunteers who have contributed to the club's success throughout its remarkable history.

Best wishes for an enjoyable gala, and a memorable series of bicentennial festivities.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Doug Ford".

**Doug Ford**  
**Premier**



Dear Royal Kingston Curling Club

On behalf of Kingston City Council I would like to extend my congratulation on the celebration of your bicentennial in 2020.

Since its inception in 1820, the Royal Kingston Curling Club in its many forms has been a staple in the community. As the second oldest curling club in Canada, it's easy to see that with a membership of over 600 curlers, this club is a vital part of the Kingston community and will continue to thrive for many years to come.

Allow me to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to the board of directors, staff and volunteers of the Royal Kingston Curling Club. The work you do is important in facilitating sport and camaraderie throughout the community.

Congratulation on this exciting time in your club's history!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bryan Paterson". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial letter.

Bryan Paterson  
Mayor of Kingston



Russ Howard is a two-time Brier champion, two-time World champion, Olympic gold medallist, two-time Canadian Senior Curling champion and member of the Ontario Sports Hall of Fame and Canada's Sports Hall of Fame.

Cheryl Bernard is an Olympic silver medallist, four-time Alberta provincial champion, and member of the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame.

### **Royal Kingston Curling Club 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Congratulations on this most prestigious occasion of your 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

I grew up at the Midland Curling Club, which in 2019 will become 100 years old, which sounded like a great accomplishment until I realized it is half the age of the Royal Kingston Curling Club.

It is so refreshing to see a curling club with this amazing longevity.

Congratulations to all of the members, and especially the Committee organizing the celebrations for this momentous occasion.

***Russ Howard***

**Royal Kingston Curling Club 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Congratulations, Royal Kingston Curling Club, on your 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, what an incredible accomplishment!

Thank you for 200 years of ambassadorship for the game of curling.

Thank you for 200 years of providing the opportunity for youth to try this game.

Thank you for 200 years of memories, opportunity and recreation.

Well done!

Congratulations to the members who believe in this club and the Committee for recognizing the importance of celebrating such a historic occasion!

Best regards



**President & Chief Executive Officer  
CANADA'S SPORTS HALL OF FAME**

*Inspiring Canadians – in sport and life*

PANTHÉON DES SPORTS CANADIENS

Inspire les Canadiens – dans le sport et dans la vie

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## KINGSTON TOWN CRIER PROCLAMATION

### *Oyez Oyez Oyez*

*My lords, ladies and gentlemen, we gather to officially recognize a momentous milestone ... the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Royal Kingston Curling Club, the oldest club in Kingston, in Ontario and the second oldest in Canada.*

*From the day it was officially established in 1820, the club began to grow and flourish increasing in members with the speed of a take-out stone, hastening the need to continually move to accommodate this growth. Starting operations at the foot of Earl Street in Donald McIntosh's storehouse it moved four times around the downtown area and Queen's University before finding its current state of the art home on Days Road.*

*In 1922 the club was incorporated by Letters Patent under the Ontario Companies Act as Kingston Curlers Limited. Seventy-one years later the club received Royal patronage.*

*From its humble beginnings in 1820 the RKCC has played host to countless events, from the prestigious Labatt Tankard welcoming world class curlers and garnering national attention, to the Fisherman's bonspiel famous (or should I say "infamous") for its residual odours, a thing of the past in this facility.*

*On behalf of the all, in authority in the City of Kingston, I extend best wishes to the Royal Kingston Curling Club on 200 years of curling history, heritage and tradition, all of which are so ingrained within the history of the City of Kingston itself.*

*God Save the Queen*

*Officially proclaimed by Chris Whyman Town Crier for the City of Kingston*



Logo design by Cynthea Cotmen

### **KICK-OFF GALA DINNER**

**Friday, September 27, 2019**

A gala dinner to launch the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations will be held at the Ambassador Hotel and Conference Centre, featuring guest speakers and curling greats Russ Howard and Cheryl Bernard. Highlights include a silent auction, world premiere of “The Royal Kingston Curling Club” bagpipe march and the unveiling of a commemorative quilt.

### **CURLING CLINICS AND STRATEGY SESSIONS**

**Saturday, September 28, 2019**

Russ Howard and Cheryl Bernard will conduct on-ice curling clinics for children and adults in the morning and an off-ice strategy clinic in the afternoon.

### **TREE PLANTING**

**Saturday, October 19, 2019**

In recognition of the club’s – and the city’s – deep military roots, the Royal Kingston Curling Club will plant a Vimy oak tree on its grounds, marked by a commemorative plaque.

### **EMPIRE LIFE BONSPIEL**

**Friday, February 7 and**

**Saturday, February 8, 2020**

The 62<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Empire Life Mixed Bonspiel celebrates 200 years of curling at RKCC.

### **KINGSTON SCHOOL VISITS**

**September 2019 to April 2020**

With sponsorship from Tim Hortons, children from four schools in Kingston will be introduced to curling in their schools through Rocks and Rings and will try curling on ice at the club with volunteer instructors from RKCC.

### **TIM HORTONS BRIER**

**February 29 to March 8, 2020**

On November 1, 2018 Curling Canada announced that Kingston would host the 2020 Tim Hortons Brier to coincide with the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Royal Kingston Curling Club.

## MESSAGE FROM RKCC PRESIDENT

I am very pleased to offer congratulations to all the members and friends of the Royal Kingston Curling Club, on the occasion of our 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The RKCC 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, ably led by Murray Cotton, has arranged many activities throughout the year. The celebrations begin with an exciting gala on September 27<sup>th</sup>, with special guests Russ Howard and Cheryl Bernard, and continue throughout the curling season until Championship Weekend in April 2020.

As a special treat, the City of Kingston is hosting the Tim Hortons Brier in 2020, with the full support of volunteers from RKCC and other clubs in town.



*Edward Gibson, President*

### RKCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*President* – Edward Gibson

*VP/Governance* – Deb Wilkin

*Past President* – John Ryce

*Secretary* – Joanne Miller

*Finance* – Paul Cridland

*Member-at-Large* – Sylvia Myers

*Operations* – Cam Gruer

*Curling* – Linda Lott

*Marketing* – Bruce Jeffery

*Membership* – Michael Flowers

*Communications* – Teresa Wilson

*Social* – Kathleen Poole

I would like to thank all of the sponsors of the various events, and add a special thanks to the wonderful volunteers, who are the lifeblood of this club.

I will close by saying how proud and honoured I am to be the President of RKCC, a club that honours the traditions of the past, while embracing the opportunities of the future. Have a great curling season, everyone!

For the past three years, the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee has been working to provide a program during the curling year that will showcase the Royal Kingston Curling Club to our community and provide an opportunity for our members to celebrate this great achievement.

Our club has an outstanding history of volunteering and it has been my privilege to be part of such a great number of volunteers who have given their time and effort to provide an

exciting program of events to highlight our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

With the support of club members, the curling community of Kingston, the City of Kingston and our sponsors, we will highlight curling in our community with the Brier starting on February 29, 2020. The last Brier in Kingston was in 1957 and it is only fitting that it returns for our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

*Murray Cotton, Chairman*

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

---

Murray Cotton, Chairman

Linda Lott, Co-Chair

John Ryce, Co-Chair

Joanne Miller, Secretary

Fran Cooney

Cynthea Cotmen

Philippa Fugler

Edward Gibson

Bruce Jeffery

Dale Marecak

Jan Ray

Nigel Retchless

Martha Tanner

Brian Ward

Deb Wilkin

## HISTORY OF RKCC



The story of the Royal Kingston Curling Club isn't the story of four walls and a roof. It doesn't start with a date carved in stone. The story of the Royal Kingston Curling Club begins on the ice, on the windswept frozen harbour between Kingston and Point Frederick, where the Royal Military College of Canada now stands.

It begins, the way it always does, with a group of people getting together to share the game they love. But more than that, it begins with a longing for the traditions of home, for by all accounts, it was a group of Scottish soldiers, garrisoned in Kingston, who took to the ice with their iron "stones" and their brooms and formed the Kingston Curling Club.

In January 1820 the *Kingston Chronicle* forecast "a real good old-fashioned winter", noting that "the ice took across the river in front of the town...and the long interrupted communication with the American shore was once again possible."

It was the perfect ice for curling.

But winter wasn't always so cooperative and outdoor play depended on the weather. Even after the club moved to its first covered rink in 1850, in a storehouse at the foot of Earl Street, the curling season started when the ice formed, usually in late December, was interrupted by warm spells and ended for good when the ice thawed, generally in March.

This was the pattern for the next four decades, as the two-sheet club moved from Earl Street to Gore Street, from Gore Street to Barrie Street, and finally to the grounds of Queen's University, where, in 1899, it expanded to five sheets to accommodate the growing number of curlers.

In 1922, the club was razed by fire, but the curling community banded together to rebuild, raising enough funds to purchase land on Clergy Street and to open a new six-sheet club in 1923. Six years later, club

members voted to invest in the newest technology: mechanical refrigeration, thus ensuring good keen ice from fall to spring.

Until the late 1890s, curling was strictly for men, women being deemed too delicate. It wasn't until 1894 that the first women's club was formed in Canada, at Montreal. The first record in Kingston was in 1909 when women formed the Kingston Ladies Curling Club and rented a locker room, meeting room and ice time from the Kingston Curling Club. It wasn't until the 1962-1963 season that the Kingston Ladies Curling Club was amalgamated with the Kingston Curling Club.

In 1993, to celebrate its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the club was granted permission by Her Majesty the Queen to add the prefix "Royal" to its name, becoming the Royal Kingston Curling Club. In 2005, Queen's University purchased the curling club on Clergy Street in order to make way for its Athletic and Recreation Centre. In return the University sold property at 130 Days Road to the Royal Kingston Curling Club, where a new state-of-the-art six-sheet rink opened in 2006.

In true pioneering spirit, the club continues to innovate. In 2011 it purchased additional land from neighbouring Corrections Canada to allow for future expansion. In 2018 it installed beach volleyball courts and formed a partnership with the Kingston Sport & Social Club. A new water treatment system was installed to ensure the best and most consistent ice possible. And, when the ice goes out in April, the pickleball courts move in, meeting a growing demand for this popular summer sport and further promoting use of the club year-round.

Physically, the club has changed many times over the past 200 years. Formed on the open ice it predates the Fort Henry that we see today, Kingston Penitentiary, and historic City Hall. The year it was formed, five-year-old John A. Macdonald, who would become Canada's first prime minister, arrived in Kingston with his parents.

But the one constant throughout these 200 years has been the spirit of camaraderie and competition that binds curlers together wherever the game is played. The club is people: Scottish emigrants, soldiers and officers, shipbuilders and captains, farmers and academics, men and women from all walks of life have made and continue to make the Royal Kingston Curling Club the distinguished club that it is today. 🍷

*By Martha Tanner*

It was at the Royal Kingston Curling Club (RKCC) that the first rock in the play for the 2020 Tim Hortons Brier was thrown. In the summer of 2016, members gathered at the club to brainstorm ideas for the club's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Of the dozens of ideas generated, one of the top five was to host a major event – like the Tim Hortons Brier.

The idea gathered speed. Greater Kingston Curling (GKC) jumped on it and, with the support of the City of Kingston, Tourism Kingston, and other corporate sponsors the idea was hammered home.

On November 1, 2018 Curling Canada announced that the Leon's Centre in Kingston would host the 2020 Tim Hortons Brier to coincide with the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of RKCC.

On hand for the announcement were several members of RKCC, including president Edward Gibson, past president John Ryce, manager Steve Hulton, GKC chair Linda Lott, and Murray Cotton, chair of the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee.

Ken Thompson, chair of the 2020 Kingston Brier Bid, said it would be a great honour to host the storied Canadian men's curling



championship. "Kingston's motto is 'Where history and innovation thrive', and our bid was indeed innovative and historic," he said. "We started curling in Kingston in 1820. The Kingston Penitentiary opened in 1835 and they started building the Rideau Canal seven years later."

Thompson thanked the City of Kingston, Kingston Transit, Sherri Agnew of J.E. Agnew Food Services Limited, Kingston Tim Hortons franchisee, and Alphabet Creative, which put the Brier Bid package together, as well as the five member clubs of Greater Kingston Curling, which supported the bid financially.

Hugh Mackenzie, chair of Tourism Kingston, noted that in 1957, the last time the Brier was in Kingston, Alberta's Matt Baldwin won with a perfect 10-and-o record. "Kingston is an iconic, authentic Canadian city rooted in the very traditions of our country, and what is more Canadian than curling? Thank you for bringing the Brier back to Kingston. We too are looking

forward to another perfect 10. This is going to be an awesome event!”

The history of the Brier dates to 1927 when the first national men’s championship was held in Toronto, sponsored by the Macdonald Tobacco Company. The Brier was named after a brand of pipe tobacco and the heart-shaped patches awarded to the winners were modeled after the small heart on Macdonald tobacco tins.

In 1957, the 28<sup>th</sup> Brier was held at the Memorial Centre in Kingston. After a rousing parade downtown to welcome the Brier curlers, David M. Stewart of the Macdonald Tobacco Company held the broom as Kingston mayor Frank P. Boyce threw the ceremonial first stone. The Hon. Thane A. Campbell of PEI, a trustee of the Brier and later a member of the Canadian Curling Hall of Fame, and Bruce Matthews, president of the Kingston Curling Club (KCC), swept the stone into the house. Chairing the Brier committee that year was Brodie Ness, a past president of KCC. In a video produced that year, the narrator noted that “the Kingston Playdowns Committee under Chairman Brodie Ness, the city itself, and the residents of this historical centre left no stone

unturned in throwing out the welcome mat to the provincial representatives.”

“Kingston, Ontario, has played a big part in Canadian history and in March 1957 it played a big part in one of Canada’s most famous winter sports, curling,” he intoned. “For it was here that the Canadian Curling Championships were held with representatives from all over Canada competing for the Macdonald Brier Tankard, emblematic of curling supremacy [ . . . ]

“It was a great honour for every one of these 44 competitors to take part in ‘curling’s World Series’ and it was an honour to the City of Kingston to be able to host this national event.”

In 1960, a team from the KCC became the first Kingston club to win a berth at the Brier. Skipped by Jake Edwards, with third Bob Elliott, second Joe Corkey and lead George Binnington, the team finished fourth at the nationals with seven wins and three losses.

Kingston has been represented twice since, by teams out of the Cataraqui Golf and Country Club, skipped by Alex Scott in 1975 and Scott McDonald in 2019. 🍷

By *Martha Tanner*

## BAGPIPE MARCH ROOTED IN TRADITION

### The Royal Kingston Curling Club

Commissioned in commemoration of the organization's 200th anniversary

Jacob Dicker, 2019

The image displays a musical score for a bagpipe march in 9/8 time. The score is written on a single treble clef staff and is divided into four measures. The first measure begins with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature of 9/8. The second measure is marked '2 of 2' and ends with a double bar line. The third measure begins with a repeat sign and ends with a double bar line. The fourth measure is marked '1' and ends with a double bar line. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some sixteenth notes beamed together in groups of four.

Curling and bagpipes: two nostalgic pieces of home that Scottish immigrants brought with them centuries ago, now co-opted into the Canadian tradition. Their shared link to that tradition is now celebrated at major curling events around the world, as players are piped onto the ice for the opening ceremonies. Just as they have been for centuries, the bagpipes inspiring the competitors marching into battle.

Both of these traditional activities arrived in Canada at roughly the same time and were delivered here by the same relatively small group of Scottish settlers. In Doug Maxwell's excellent history of our sport, *Canada Curls*, the arrival of curling in Canada is directly attributed to the soldiers of the 78<sup>th</sup> Fraser Highlanders shortly after the Battle of Ste. Foy in 1759. In addition to curling, the Scottish regiments of the Seven Years War brought with them their instrument of war: like them or not, the bagpipes were now in Canada.

Despite their common history, through all the research that I have done I have yet to come across a pipe tune that is named for something from the roaring game. This is not to say that one doesn't exist, but if it does I haven't found it. Having been the bagpiper at many curling events, I can tell you that we are not playing any specific curling tunes. Most often

you'll hear us playing a common 4/4 march like Scotland the Brave, something with an easy-to-find beat. If I may be so bold, dear reader, you probably aren't as good at clapping along to our music as you think you are.

As a curler and a bagpiper, in that order, I recognized that the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Royal Kingston Curling Club was the perfect opportunity to celebrate the deep traditional roots of our sport. What better way to celebrate than by establishing a formal connection to the instrument that came with curling to Canada in its earliest days here, with what might be the first published pipe tune written in celebration of the sport of curling.

While a student, I had the great pleasure of playing in the Queen's University Pipe Band with a world-class piper and now one of my dearest friends, Jacob Dicker. While we both started in the band at the same time, it's safe to say that Jacob was a little further along as a musician than I was. Immediately prior to starting at Queen's, Jacob won the invitational MacCrimmon Cup at the Festival Interceltique de Lorient for Piobaireachd in France. He has since gone on to win the prestigious Piobaireachd Society Gold Medal (Canada) at the Glengarry Highland Games in Maxville, ON, and is now the Pipe Major of the Ottawa Police Service Pipe Band.

In early 2018, I asked Jacob if I could commission him to write a tune called "The Royal Kingston Curling Club", which I now present as a gift to our club, our sport, and to the community of bagpipers that play our bonspiels and events. My challenge to him was to write a tune that embodied the spirit of our sport, while being simple enough for the average piper to learn it with relative ease, and most importantly: curlers needed to be able clap along to it. The tune that Jacob wrote is not only a testament to his exceptional musicianship and creativity as a composer, but I feel that it perfectly expresses all the excitement, the drama, and the fun of our sport. My sincere thanks go out to him for creating this thoughtful celebration of our club's history. If you're one of the many people who feels comfortable telling us pipers that all of our music sounds the same (my parents...), then pay attention because this next part is for you.

The tune is set in a compound time signature, 9/8, which is similar to 3/4 time but instead of having three full beats in each bar the composer is working with three groups of triplets. This sets the stage for the rising and falling action that is heard throughout this tune, as the triplets create

frequent runs up and down the scale. To enhance the natural flow of the 9/8 time signature, Jacob used dot (held) and cut (shortened) notes throughout his composition to give the tune the strong pulsing swing that you hear in the melody. This helps emphasize where the beats lie while otherwise supporting a more dynamic melody; it tells you where the claps should go, while still sounding fun.

The third and sixth bars of each part are where my favourite musical moments in the tune occur: a sudden jump out of the triplets creating immediate tension. In the third bar, we are settled after a very melodic run up the scale to G immediately down to a dotted B played with a strike embellishment on G. The result is an unexpected grounding drop after rising up the scale creating this abrasive moment. We fall on this unresolved sounding note (you'll have to look pretty hard to find pipe tunes that end on a B), and it's not what we our subconscious wanted to happen next. In his composition, Jacob has shaken us out of a normal pattern of expectation ... just like when our opponent's stone makes the unlikely in-off hit to sit right on the button. This same musical effect occurs in the sixth bar, but this time we drop all the way from that high G down an entire octave to the heavier sounding low G. The effect is more weighty and resonant than in the third bar, but this time I see our stone just slipping past the guard to make the takeout and give us the point, enhanced by the resolving phrase at the end of the part.

Looking at the list of world curling championship victories in the back of Doug Maxwell's book, it's clear to see that Canada has become the master of this Scottish sport. While we may not have that same dominance in the world of competitive piping, the first World Pipe Band Championship won by a non-Scottish band occurred in 1987, and it was none other than the Canadian 78<sup>th</sup> Fraser Highlanders – full circle. These two Scottish traditions arrived here together, have taken different paths since, and in both cases, Canadians have excelled and advanced the activity on the world stage. It is my honour to present this march to the Royal Kingston Curling Club, that it may serve as a symbol of our club and our sport's strong traditions and exciting future. 🍷

*By Kevin Tanner*

## THREADS OF HISTORY

Linda Miller came relatively late to curling and to quilting. But when she finally took them up in 1990 and 1997 respectively, after her two sons were grown, it felt like coming home.

So it was not surprising that Linda's two passions should combine into one beautiful memento to mark the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her home club, the Royal Kingston. All it took was a nudge from her long-time friend, rink mate, and quilt co-designer, Fran Cooney.



Fran Cooney (left) and Linda Miller (right)

Fran doesn't quilt. She is, however, behind many of the commemorative quilting projects that Linda has completed over the years, including five for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Providence Care and one for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Napanee & District Curling Club.

So there was Fran, at the first brainstorming session for the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of RKCC, sketching a design for the club's own Linda Miller quilted original. The quilt incorporates the colours of the club's crest on its border and has four photos of the club from 1910 to the present, with the club's name and dates embroidered in gold thread and an embroidered rock and rings.

The quilt is a gift from both women, who donated their time, materials and talent to commemorate their club's bicentennial.

"I'm pleased it's going to be hanging in the club," says Linda, who has fond memories of going with her mom to watch her father, Jim Smith, play at the Kingston Curling Club in the 1940s. "It's part of my family history."

"I'm happy we could do something special to recognize the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary," adds Fran. "It's mainly something to give back to the club that would be enjoyed by everybody and that recognizes milestones in the club's history. And it's a nice way to leave a bit of ourselves in something unique." 🍷

By *Martha Tanner*

It was a granite stone that killed Captain Donnelly. Captain Thomas Donnelly, a widely respected marine expert, died on the morning of August 24, 1908, after falling on a curling stone at the Kingston Curling Club. According to the obituary that appeared in the *British Whig*:

*"After an illness extending over a year and a half, Thomas Donnelly passed to rest at 6 o'clock this morning, at his residence, University Avenue.*

*Kingston curlers had played with iron stanes", due to the difficulty in bringing granite stones from Scotland.*

*For the last year no hope was held out for his recovery. The ablest physicians and surgeons on the continent were consulted . . .*

*Capt. Donnelly's illness was caused by his slipping in the Kingston curling rink three years ago and falling on a curling stone. The injury developed a fatal internal disease."*

We know it was a granite stone because in 1901, the Kingston Curling Club applied to join the granite-playing Ontario Curling Association, noting that it had stopped using iron stones and had withdrawn from the Canadian branch of the Royal Canadian Curling Club. Until then, Kingston curlers had played

with iron "stances", due to the difficulty in bringing granite stones from Scotland. These were said to have been made using the metal-rimmed hubs of gun carriages, into which handles were inserted. Ouch.

These weren't the matched stones of today, however, which are made by the Canada Curling Stone Company using granite from the Trefor Quarry in Wales. Members generally had to provide their own stones and brooms or

"besoms", made of twigs tied to a stick. Initially, the purpose of the brooms was to clear the ice of snow and it wasn't until much later that brooms became a force for manipulating the path of the rock. When they did, it was a Kingston player who had a role in their development.

In the late 1960s, Canadian curlers began to use brushes made with horse or hog hair, which had been adopted in Scotland and which were much easier on the arms and more effective than the walloping corn brooms.

In the 1980's, Ted Brown, a member of the Kingston Curling

Club since 1958 and the owner of an upholstery business, removed the hair from a bristle brush and covered the block with nylon upholstery fabric. He took the prototype to the Kingston Curling Club, where it was an instant hit. Widely imitated, the "Brownie Brush" revolutionized the game.

Which brings us, in a round-about way, to women's curling. The first women's curling club was formed in Montreal in 1894. A female correspondent for *Athletic Life* in 1896 wrote of how she shocked a well-known curler by telling him that women had been curling in Galt. Surely, she joked, "a woman should know better than a man how to 'sweep' and how to 'curl'.

Women formed the Kingston Ladies Curling Club in 1909 and quickly earned a name for themselves in curling competitions, apparently unhampered by their ankle-length skirts, buttoned-to-the-chin blouses and fashionable hats. Of course, this was before the slide delivery, developed in the 1940s by Canadian Ken Watson. Before that, curlers "hacked out" a foothold in the ice and, with a mighty swing, delivered the rock from a standstill.

In 1946 the Directors of the club approved a motion to purchase

the club's first set of 50 pairs of matched stones. At first there were objections from some Directors, not just to the \$2,000 price tag, but also because some members believed that matched stones would make the game less interesting. After their first year of membership, curlers had to provide their own stones and skips came to know whether each stone was "rough" or "smooth".

In objecting to the cost, Director R.J. McLelland lamented that curlers returned from events at the Granite Club in Toronto "with Granite Club ideas and would like to imitate them in our club on Odessa Village finances."

He noted that when the club was opened in 1923, it had purchased 100 pairs of stones weighing 38, 39, and 40 lbs and one pair weighing 42 lbs. "I believe if we examined the stones we could get many pairs matched."

However, the motion was approved. Minutes of board meetings are missing for the years 1945-1981, but the financial statements for 1954 include "curling stones, \$2,073.50".

Curling ice has also changed remarkably in the past 200 years. The first curlers in Kingston played on natural ice, at first on Kingston Harbour and then in covered buildings, still on natural ice and still dependent on

outdoor temperatures, but protected from falling snow and biting winds.

In 1929, the Kingston Curling Club invested in the latest technology for making mechanically refrigerated ice. At the new club on Clergy Street, pipes for circulating intensely cold brine were laid on the sand floor and covered with water, which then froze to clear ice.

In 1939, Director R.B. Ness suggested that the club hire a caretaker so that the ice maker could be relieved of caretaking duties and instead "make improvements on our ice". Mr. Ness said that he had visited many clubs in Ontario and Quebec. "They have real clean white and perfect ice with can and diamond pebble."

Again there were objections, this time from W.J. Cooke, who protested, "If we had perfect ice, with perfect draw, the game in my opinion would not be as interesting..."

In 2006, the Royal Kingston Curling Club built a new six-sheet curling club in its present location on Days Road. Although many members missed the character inherent in the creaky old building on Clergy Street,

icemakers welcomed the new concrete floor in the ice shed, which eliminated the challenge of making level ice on a sand floor. In order to do so, the thickness of the ice varied from one-and-a-half inches to four inches in spots.

The club continues to invest in ensuring the best possible ice for its members, most recently by switching from municipal water for ice-making to demineralized water using a reverse osmosis water treatment system by Jet Ice.

Another welcome development at the Royal Kingston has been the growth of stick-curling, which allows curlers to deliver the rock with the use of a delivery stick from a standing or seated (i.e., wheelchair) position. This has enabled many curlers to continue playing the sport they love or to take up the sport for the first time.

Whether it is in the form of new rules, game formats, equipment or leagues, the history of curling continues to evolve and with it the history of the Royal Kingston Curling Club.

To be continued! 🍲

By *Martha Tanner*

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While visiting Kingston for a number of years to see family, we watched the new curling club being built. When I first saw the sign, "Site of new home of the Royal Kingston Curling Club", I knew then that this city had the potential to become our new home when we were closer to retirement, as I am an avid curler.

So here we are, all these years later, happily participating in our new, vibrant community including the curling club; both have kept us young, active and involved.

Congratulations to the Royal Kingston Curling Club for 200 glorious years. We wish the best for your continued success, and are honoured to be part of your club.

*Deb and Rob Wilkin*

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## Congratulations RKCC on 200 years!

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### WALL OF FAME

The Wall of Fame honours members who have exemplified the vision and values of RKCC and have achieved extraordinary distinction by their contributions to the club over many years. They have brought honour to the sport of curling and to their home club through their performance, sportsmanship and character. This honour has been bestowed on

CARRIE COLE	BILL LEWIS
J.L. "JAKE" EDWARDS	MARG McDONALD
K.E. "KARL" LEISHMAN	LINDA LOTT
JACK SANDS	BETTY BUSH
H.E. "LEFTY" McDONALD	PHIL TOMSETT
CLARK CARNEGIE	

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### WALL OF RECOGNITION

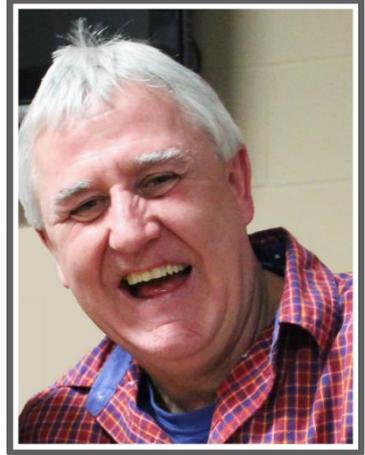
In 2019 RKCC established a Wall of Recognition to formally recognize volunteers and staff who have made extraordinary contributions to the establishment, operation and enhancement of our club. These outstanding members have devoted countless hours to ensure that all aspects of the club run smoothly. They have introduced the game to hundreds of new curlers and worked tirelessly behind the scenes at bonspiels and on committees to make RKCC the successful club that it is. We are honoured to recognize the following inductees:

JIM BARTON	JIM LESLEY
BRIAN COLLINGWOOD	EMIL LINDT
BILL DUFFE	VIC MATTHEWS
DENIS FAUBERT	STEVE QUINN
REG GORE	JAN RAY
DIANE LABRIE	JUDY RUSSELL
ROD LEEDER, EMERITUS	WAYNE SMITH
EMPLOYEE	APRIL WELSH

---

## FROM RINK RAT TO RENOWN – ROD LEEDER, 1956-2018

A curling club is its people and in 2018 we lost one of our very best when head ice technician Rod Leeder passed away. Rod was more than just an ice maker to the RKCC and its extended family, however. He was a friend, a sounding board, and a jokester. Like any ice maker, he had a thick skin, but he also had a soft heart. He loved a party and would have loved RKCC's biggest, its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



Rod worked at the club for over 40 years, starting right out of high school under the guidance of head ice maker Ace McKeown. When Ace retired in 1982, Rod took over the role.

In 1995 Rod doubled his duties by accepting the position of head ice maker at the Cataraqi Golf and Country Club. He worked at both clubs for 12 years until it became too much and he left Cataraqi, to the great delight and relief of the RKCC membership. International Curling Ice Consultant and legendary ice maker the late Shorty Jenkins noted that Rod "totally changed the ice conditions" at Cataraqi "to have one of the better playing conditions in the country", adding that he himself had "gained a lot of knowledge" by working with Rod at various championships over the years.

In fact, Rod was considered one of the best ice technicians in the province, known for his fast, consistent ice. He worked at many championships over the years, including the 1995 men's provincial Tankard with Shorty Jenkins at the Jock Harty Arena and the 2001 All-Ontario Scott Tournament of Hearts at Cataraqi.

In 1999 when the roof leaked at the Cataraqi club during the Ontario Ladies Curling Association Hearts Final, Rod managed to save the ice – and the competition.

A few months later, during the ice storm of 1999, Rod managed to get the rocks off the ice at both clubs before water could penetrate and damage them.

In 2012, when RKCC celebrated Rod's 37<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the club, Doug Bakes, then executive director of the Ontario Curling Association said he believed that Rod was one of the longest serving ice technicians in the province and pointed to Rod's reputation for reliability, consistency in his ice making and his ability to maintain a friendly, respectful relationship with curling members.

Surprisingly, Rod never curled himself. In the beginning, he used to throw rocks back and forth to see how the ice was working, but experience taught him to learn by simply observing play.

Rod passed away on March 14, 2018, just two days after his sixty-second birthday. His absence was keenly felt at Championship Night that year. "We all miss him," said outgoing president John Ryce, adding that he was proud of the way the RKCC family had pulled together to support Rod and his family throughout Rod's battle with cancer.

In Rod's honour, the Evening Men's Flight League renamed its Grand Aggregate Trophy the Rod Leeder Grand Aggregate Trophy.

In 2019, Rod was named to the club's new Wall of Recognition in the category of Emeritus Employee.

Today Rod's jacket has pride of place in a frame at the club. The lifelong rink rat may have "left the building", but he will always be a part of the Royal Kingston Curling Club.

*By Martha Tanner*

## **CLUB STAFF**

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General Manager	Steve Hulton
Ice Technicians	Terry Barker (Head), Gene Miller, Paul Moorby
Bartenders	Gerry Buist (Head), Julie Cox, Paul Moorby, Bev Townsend, Kaitlyn Welch

## WHAT'S KEPT YOU CURLING?

We asked some of our Life Members (30 years or more membership) what has kept them curling all these years at RKCC.

### GLENDA & ED BAUDER

*I have curled in the Ladies afternoon, evening and mixed sections of RKCC. We got to know a lot of people and have made lifelong friends at the Club and have enjoyed many happy years of curling and friendship. (Glenda)*

*Being an active member provided many valuable experiences and an opportunity to meet and enjoy people I would have otherwise not met. Serving on the Board of Management was an honour. (Ed)*

### MARILYN BELLRINGER

*Belonging to RKCC has provided a friendly social atmosphere, where over the years I have met several friends. As far as the game itself, I enjoy the competitive as well as the fun activities/games in various leagues. Sincere efforts are made to welcome new members. Through volunteer committees, RKCC is a very good club.*

*I was encouraged to join RKCC some 40-plus years ago by golfing friends, who thought I would enjoy the game of curling. So, I joined and after the curling clinic, I said to my husband, "Not sure I like curling, but my membership is*

*paid, so I will stay for this year." Well, I am still here after all these years – the game grew on me.*

### TONY BUSH

*I spent 30 years volunteering, curling four to six times a week and socializing at RKCC before hanging up my broom and packing away my shoes. My excuse for leaving the game was wonky knees and burnout. I was certain I could find a comparable winter pastime.*

*Three long, boring winters later my terminally ill wife, Betty, made me commit to revisiting the game. She knew there was a void in my life that required attention. So, in September 2016, I kept that promise and returned to RKCC, soon realizing what great fun and sheer enjoyment I had missed.*

*For years I swore that rather than stick-curl I would head to Florida and play shuffleboard. What a fool I was! I now stick-curl four times a week and practise every available Sunday. My passion for the game, the Club and for the friendships old and new make me whole again. RKCC is once again my second winter home!*

### BILL CANNON

*My affection for the RKCC is rooted in (a) the virtually-universal friendliness and good*

*sportsmanship of the members, (b) the inclusive governance of the club, (c) the overwhelming willingness of members to pitch in and help out with organizing and executing social events and bonspiels, etc., and (d) the generosity of many people in welcoming new members – of all ages – to the club and helping them get acquainted with the club and the sport of curling.*

### **JOAN DOUCET**

*Curling is a sport that I enjoy. It allows me to challenge myself to keep trying to improve my skills.*

*RKCC has a relaxing and casual atmosphere where I can do this and meet new people every year.*

*RKCC is a club where I have been able to curl for fun in in-house spiels, but also has given me the opportunity to curl at the provincial and national levels.*

*Has it been 30-plus years? Where have the years gone? Each new season starts and one just signs up again to be with the people you enjoy, at a place you feel comfortable, doing what you love.*

### **SANDY EDWARDS**

*I will be forever thankful for the enjoyment I have had being a member of RKCC since 1974.*

*The social aspects of the club – the leagues, bonspiels, dinners, the*

*odd cocktail and of course all the fun and laughs I've been blessed to have along the way. I have made lifelong friendships and I get to spend time with them all year round. I also enjoy the team playing, competitiveness and exercise of the game of curling.*

### **HOWARD & PAULINE HERRON**

*I spent many memorable years watching RKCC grow. It was my honour serving as President in 1986 and I am looking forward to my 50<sup>th</sup> year of curling next year. (Howard)*

*Some of my most memorable moments were spent at RKCC. I enjoyed all my years curling at Royal Kingston meeting so many wonderful people. (Pauline)*

### **LIN JENKINS**

*The Royal Kingston Curling Club was cemented into my life long before it was Royal. I can't remember exactly what letters we had to send to England requesting permission to incorporate the word "Royal" into our club name, but I do know I had something to do with encouraging it. It was somewhere around the time of my Presidency.*

*The things I love best about my club are people first and the game second. I have made some wonderful lifelong friendships that I cherish dearly. As a matter of*

*fact, I recently had lunch with my flight team from 15 years ago. We all have fun memories that we laugh about when we meet and share. I can't imagine what would have filled my long winter days if it hadn't been for the RKCC. A friend named Erin March talked me into curling when I was 28, after my daughter was in school all day. I haven't missed a curling season since.*

### **LINDA O'SULLIVAN**

*I have loved curling at the RKCC for over 50 years because I love the game and the people who I have met while curling. Some of my best friends are people who I met at the curling club. Every year in October when I step on the ice for the first game of the year, I always say to myself, "I love this game so much". I love thinking up the strategy and trying to see if it works. Best game ever!!!*

### **JUDY RUSSELL**

*What is it about RKCC that has kept me curling all these years? While I realize it is true of most if not all curling clubs, what keeps me coming back to RKCC is the people. I look forward to seeing RKCC curlers every fall and each and every time I head to the club to curl. RKCC is also where I learned that I love teaching people to curl. I'm naturally shy and would never have been happy in a*

*classroom but give me someone who wants to learn to curl and I have trouble keeping myself from telling them everything I know about this sport I love.*

### **MIKE SCHNEIDER**

*For me curling at RKCC is all about the four "f" words: Family, Friends and the Famous Fisherman's!*

*After Karen and I moved to Kingston and decided to curl again, there was no question where we would join. Karen's parents (George and Thelma Graves) both were Life Members of the Kingston Curling Club and were very active in the club.*

*When I joined in 1980, I started in Tuesday flight with friends from work. Roll forward to 2019 and I'm curling in two leagues, again with some (now retired) friends from work, (one of whom started out with me in 1980) as well as friends who I met while curling together in club and flight at RKCC.*

*In the mid 70's, we happened to be visiting family in Kingston in the first weekend of April and George introduced me to the Famous Fisherman's Bonspiel. In April 1981, he introduced me to working on the bonspiel's oyster pit. I've been working on the bonspiel ever since and playing in the spiel is always the highlight of my curling season.*

The Royal Kingston Curling Club has always been dedicated to high performance in curling. Part of its Vision Statement is to be the “Centre of Excellence” for curling in eastern Ontario. This includes a well-maintained facility that offers excellent curling, opportunities for curlers to continually develop their skills through instruction and competition, and encouragement and support for teams that compete at the regional, provincial and national levels. As a result, several championship banners – including the one shown below – have pride of place on the walls of our club.



Championship Banner, 1952

**The Ontario Tankard**  
1952, 1953 & 1968

**Ontario British Consols**  
1960

**Ontario Senior Men**  
1976, 1977 & 1979

**Ontario Senior Mixed**  
1987

**Ontario Pepsi Junior Men**  
1989 & 1990

**Canadian Junior Men's  
Curling Champions**  
1990

**Ontario Tim Hortons  
Master Women**  
2006

**Tim Hortons Master  
Women Provincial  
Championship**  
2009

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## MEN'S CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY

The men's club trophy is arguably the most venerable silver cup in the club's history. Over the years, it has been burnished by hundreds of hands – and lips – as it been hoisted over and over in victory. The Club Championship Trophy was first presented in 1911 to J.A. McRae, H.G. Steers, P.T. Pilkey and E.H. Brower. In this same year the Kingston Curling Club adopted its Constitution:

*The object of the Club shall be to promote the game of curling in the City of Kingston; to foster friendly feeling among its members; to secure honourable conduct in their curling intercourse; and to cultivate and preserve the best traditions of the game.*

That sentiment still defines club-level curling, the very heart of how we play. But what would those curlers of a century ago make of today's jubilant celebrations? After all, this is the same club that threatened "drastic measures" if certain members did not immediately cease "excessive drinking and rowdyism" and only accepted new members "subject to, that at all times you will conduct yourself always in a gentlemanly manner whilst in the premises of the Club".

Times have changed. Today the celebration of club curling is shared by all, men and women alike, who raise the cup to their lips on Championship Night and toast another successful season. 🍷

By Martha Tanner



2018-19 Champions are Kevin Pereira, Ken Brant, Ryan Hanes (skip), and John Leinweber.

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## CARRIE COLE MEMORIAL TROPHY (WOMEN'S CLUB)

Carrie Cole was a gifted curler and outdoorswoman who won many club and flight championships at the Kingston Curling Club in the 1950's and 1960's. Her son Don told us about her love of curling and fishing, even owning her own three-horsepower motor! He said his dad often cooked supper, as his mum was at the curling club.

Provincially, she was on the winning team that captured the Eastern Ontario Ladies Curling Association Championship in 1956. In 1965 she skipped her senior team to a win of the Southern Ontario Ladies Curling Association Tankard. She loved the game and willingly coached many new and younger curlers.

After her death in 1968, the Ladies Afternoon Section decided a memorial trophy would be a wonderful way to remember this talented and respected curler. Many monetary contributions led to the purchase of an original oil painting entitled "Old Mill" by James Keirstead, a young local artist. The Ladies Afternoon curlers would play the Business Girls for this trophy.

The first Carrie Cole Memorial Championship was played in March 1969. Marg McDonald, who is still curling at RKCC, skipped the team with Carole Devereaux, Gerda Potter and Linda Wilk playing against the Afternoon Ladies team of skip Leona Clow with Doris Patton, Barb Everingham and Dorothy Mann. The McDonald team prevailed and had the first shield engraved with their names attached to the frame on the Keirstead painting.



The Carrie Cole trophy painting is now hung above the fireplace in the RKCC lounge and reminds us of a skilled and much beloved curler. 🏹

*With thanks to Fran Cooney,  
Don Cole & Marlene Stuckless*

2018-19 Champions are Martine Bernard (lead), Denise Mulville (skip), Karen Matheson (vice) and Gay Chamberlain (second).

### THE WHIG MEN'S OPEN

The *Whig-Standard* newspaper has a long history of support for the Kingston Curling Club and for the sport of curling through lively reporting on games, bonspiels and accomplishments. In 1913, the *British Whig* first sponsored a trophy for men's curling, which was won that year by J.F. Macdonald of the Kingston Curling Club.

In 1926 the *British Whig* merged with the *Daily Standard* to form the Kingston *Whig-Standard* and seven years later, in 1933, the first Whig trophy was played for, and won by the team of J.H.S. Derby. "The Whig" Men's Open Bonspiel promises a weekend of curling, fun and food, as well as thousands of dollars in cash prizes.

The longest-running bonspiel at the Royal Kingston Curling Club, "The Whig" will celebrate 87 years in 2020.

### EMPIRE LIFE (MIXED)

Empire Life, founded in 1923 as the Empire Life Insurance Company, has been a strong supporter of the Empire Life Mixed Bonspiel since 1958. For most of its history, "The Empire" was a 32-team bonspiel held over three days. In recent years it has been a one-day, 24-team spiel,

but it has always been known for its great food, great fun and fabulous themes and costumes.

The theme for 2020 is "The 62<sup>nd</sup> Empire Life Mixed Bonspiel celebrates 200 years of curling at RKCC". It will be a 32-team knock-out spiel with a three-game minimum. Games will be six ends and it will be held from mid-day Friday, February 7, 2020 until the evening of Saturday, February 8, 2020.

### THE FAMOUS FISHERMAN'S

The Famous Fisherman's Bonspiel has been a lure for men's curling teams from far and wide since its inception in 1953. It was started by Raymond J. Allain, who served as club president in 1954, and was run for many years by a team called The Plumbers: Bob Clark, George Graves, Don Lemmon and Bill Sharpe.

The Fisherman's owes its fame not only to the fabulous seafood served throughout the three-day event, but to the friendships forged over the years and the legendary on- and off-ice antics. "The spiel is steeped in tradition," says Mike Schneider, who first curled in the Fisherman's in 1980. "At the old club, the banquet was held at Queen's in the 1980's and 90's, and bonspiel participants (all wearing the still obligatory

sports jackets) were piped from the club to the banquet hall down the street. Everyone returned to the club for aperitifs (and cigars back in the day), and the awarding of the Fisherman of the Year. For many years the post-banquet activities included minnow races as well as a poker game that often was just winding up when the kitchen staff arrived to start the fish fry Saturday morning."

In an article in *The Curling News* in 2006, writer Doug Graham recalled one player holding a candlelight dinner in the midst of a Fisherman's game. And in a *Whig-Standard* article that same year about the closing of the old club, Patrick Kennedy retold the story of how a bonspiel participant from Winnipeg jumped behind the wheel of the school bus hired to take curlers to dinner at Glen Lawrence and drove it around the block with convenor George Graves running full tilt behind it. "Later that night at the dinner," Kennedy wrote, "Graves was regally presented with the keys to the bus on a cushion."

Food figures prominently in the Fisherman's traditions. The Friday night seafood banquet is followed by a Saturday morning

fish fry. There is an oyster pit (first run in the men's locker room in the basement of the old club), and clam chowder served throughout the spiel.



But the fondest tradition is the awarding of the title of Fisherman of the Year, which recognizes the longest attending, active participant, alternating

between out-of-town and local players. The first to win the honour, in 1989, was Gananoque's Arthur Pullaw, at one time recognized as the oldest active curler in Canada. The title has been awarded posthumously three times: to long-time volunteers Brian Collingwood and Bill Duffe, and to ice maker Rod Leeder.

In 2019, Ted Paradis enjoyed the distinction of being the first curler to be named Fisherman of the Year and to win the bonspiel in the same year. Ted's father Charlie was a long-time participant and his hat, with many Fisherman's pins, was exhibited in the trophy case for years. These fish-shaped pins, with the year engraved on the tail of the fish, are part of the tradition and are given to all participants each year.

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## OTHER BONSPIELS

### **Betty Bush Memorial**

In 2016 an in-house bonspiel was renamed the Betty Bush Memorial Bonspiel in tribute to a gifted RKCC curler and tireless volunteer who passed away in 2015. Betty was an exceptional curler who skipped two teams to victory at the 2006 and 2009 Ontario Master Women competitions in addition to winning countless bonspiels at RKCC and elsewhere. Her passion for the game not only made her a keen competitor, but also led to mentoring new and young curlers. It is fitting that this bonspiel not only encourages new curlers to enter a bonspiel, but also inspires seasoned curlers to go out and do their best as Betty always did.

### **Limestone Senior Men's**

The Limestone Senior Men's Bonspiel has run every year since 1986. Teams must have an aggregate age of at least 210 years, though most entrants are in their early to mid 70's. Teams are largely from the Kingston and Belleville area, but there are always a few teams from as far away as Ottawa and Toronto. It is a points spiel based on results of two eight-end games. The first winner was the Gananoque rink of Red Maxwell, Ted Root, Frank Glover and Ted Butler. The Royal Kingston rink of Scotty Matheson, Lefty McDonald, Jack

Cliff and Don Cole won in the next year, in 1987. Interestingly, in the past 12 years, 11 different clubs have claimed the trophy. In 1995 skip Paul Farrow from Garrison won as a "young" senior, and 20 years later, in 2015, he skipped the winning team as a "somewhat older" senior.

### **Grandmothers & Great Aunts**

The Grandmothers and Great Aunts Bonspiel is an invitational event for Day Lady curlers which came to RKCC in 1987 from the Garrison Curling Club. Now 47 years old it attracts curlers from across eastern Ontario and is known for lively competition, imaginative costumes and good food. Many teams throughout the region attend every year with the expectation of seeing friends on the ice.

### **Super Seniors Invitational**

The Super Seniors Invitational Bonspiel started in 2006 for senior men aged 60+. Teams come from as far as Tweed, Ottawa, Brighton and points in between to compete in this friendly competition. Most of the dozen or more participating clubs have similar fundraising bonspiels, so the teams get together several times a year to enjoy a friendly rivalry and camaraderie. Organizer Steve Quinn, who coined the term "Super Seniors", says that RKCC's bonspiel is recognized as one of the best.

## PRESIDENTS AND LIFE MEMBERS

### RKCC PRESIDENTS, 1889-2020

1889 – W.H. Cotton	1932 – J. Angrove	1974 – Lefty McDonald
1890 – J.B. Carruthers	1933-34 – J.A. McRae	1975 – Ross Willson
1891-92 – M. Sutherland	1935 – T.G. Bishop	1976 – Vincent O'Neill
1893 – J. Stewart	1936 – W.J. Cooke	1977 – Mike Breen
1894 – C.W. Drury	1937-38 – H.A. Heagle	1978 – Douglas Belch
1895 – W. Lesslie	1939 – Dr. A.C. Neish	1979 – David McMurray
1896 – A. Strachan	1940 – F. Lumb	1980 – Earl McCullough
1897 – J. Watson	1941 – H.E. Pearen	1981 – Edmund Bauder
1898 – W.B. Dalton	1942 – W.J. Drysdale	1982 – Jewel Cooney
1899 – J.B. Walkem	1943 – Karl E. Leishman	1983-84 – A. Langlois
1900 – F. Shaw	1944-45 – R.M. Allan	1985-86 – Fred Leduc
1901-02 – G.H. Ogilvie	1946 – Brodie Ness	1987 – Howard Herron
1903 – S.R. Bailey	1947 – Jack G.W. Sands	1988-89 – Lin Jenkins
1904 – L.L. Henderson	1948 – Jack McCartney	1990 – Fred Butler
1905 – G.H. Ogilvie	1949 – Joe Shames	1991 – Rene Marchen
1906 – W.M. Bramfield	1950 – H.M. Reid	1992 – Norm Dunstan
1907 – J.M. Farrell	1951 – T.D. Slater	1993 – George Westlake
1908 – E. Hague	1952-53 – H. Edgar	1994 – Doug Graham
1909 – L.W. Gill	1954 – R.A.J. Allain	1995 – Tony Bush
1910 – R.J. McKelvey	1955-56 – B. Matthews	1996 – Graeme McKay
1911 – E.O. Sliter	1957 – A.W. Bidgood	1997 – Linda Lott
1912 – H. Macpherson	1958 – Gib Seymour	1998 – Phil Tomsett
1913 – J.F. Macdonald	1959 – Art Gloyne	1999 – Bob Fisher
1914 – W.R. Givens	1960 – Gord Lumb	2000 – Donna Smith
1915-16 – W.L. Goodwin	1961 – Bob Webster	2001 – Darryl Herron
1917-18 – A. Cunningham	1962 – Ernie Boughton	2002 – Steve Payne
1919 – H. Angrove	1963 – Robert F. Elliott	2003 – Ron Walsh
1920 – T.M. Asselstine	1964 – Harold C. Anglin	2004-05 – Nick Brown
1921 – M.P. Reid	1965 – Wes T. Reid	2006-07 – Mike Tureski
1922-23 – Dr. S. Dyde	1966 – Syd H. Rose	2008-09 – W. Gilmour
1924 – H. Angrove	1967 – Jack Gollogly	2010-11 – Roy Vasey
1925-27 – E. Mooers	1968-69 – Jake Edwards	2012-13 – Henry Treier
1928-29 – R. McFarlane	1970 – George Graves	2014-15 – M. Schneider
1930 – J.F. McMillan	1971 – Bill Sharpe	2016-18 – John Ryce
1931 – G. Hanson	1972 – Donald Lemmon	2018-20 – E. Gibson
	1973 – John Hutchinson	

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## LIFE MEMBERS

### 1940's

George Hanson  
Walter Cooke

### 1950's

Jack McCartney

### 1960's

Harry Abramsky  
Minnie Carlaw  
Joseph Cooke  
Stu Cooke  
Bob Elliott  
Edith Hall  
Karl Leishman  
Gord Lumb  
Audrey McFarlane  
Bob McFarlane  
Fran Millar  
Annie Rutherford  
Jack Sands

### 1970's

Frances Allain  
Harold Anglin  
Gord Bond  
Ernest Boughton  
Harold Buck  
Bob Clark  
Joe Corkey  
Dick Edney  
Jake L. Edwards  
Bill A. Kelly  
Bruce Matthews  
Mary McFarlane  
Andy L. McFie  
Wesley T. Reid  
Tip Roberts  
Gib Seymour  
Bill Sharpe  
George Shewell  
Rev. Minto Swan

Pat Travers  
Bert Vince  
J.H. (Dud) White

### 1980's

Ken Anderson  
Bud Beatty  
George Binnington  
Margaret  
Blenkinsop  
Bob Bruce  
Don Bruce  
Vi Duff  
Hazel Fergusson  
Ev Gollogly  
Clyde Lawlor  
Annie Levandowski  
Bill Mills  
Gert Poston  
Bette Reid  
Flossie Seymour  
Lloyd Starnaman  
Phyllis Starnaman  
Julius Sugarman  
Dot Vince

### 1990's

Ed Bauder  
Glenda Bauder  
Bernie Breen  
Jean Breen  
Mike Breen  
Kathy Brown  
Ron Brown  
Ted Brown  
Clark Carnegie  
Shirley Clark  
Olive Crawford  
Gladys Ford  
Frank Forkes  
George Graves  
Thelma Graves

Enid Gugins  
Howard Herron  
Pauline Herron  
Ruth Hillier  
John Hutchinson  
Marg Hutchinson  
Bob Leishman  
Lois Leishman  
Lefty McDonald  
Marg McDonald  
Ike McHugh  
Thelma Mills  
Charlie Paradis  
Shirley Paradis  
Grant Paterson  
Barb Peters  
Don Pringle  
Art Russell  
Shirley Russell  
Art Taugher

### 2000's

Doug Belch  
Marilyn Bellringer  
Mary Bird  
Russ Brown  
Ken Burns  
Betty Bush  
Don Cameron  
Esther Cliff  
Jack Cliff  
Rhonda Cross  
Arla Currie  
Bill Duffe  
Shirley Dunstan  
Sandy Edwards  
Bob Fisher  
Bill Gourdier  
Lin Jenkins  
Linda Lott  
Edith Lutz  
Joanne Manion

John Mayhew  
Tom Mercer  
Gwen Mitchell  
Linda O'Sullivan  
Mary Paterson  
Ray Quenneville  
Bill Racz  
Joyce Roddy  
Yvonne Taugher  
Phil Tomsett  
Bill Vince  
Ron Walsh  
April Welsh  
Sylvia Wright

### **2010's**

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John Berry  
Ella Brisson  
Pat Brooks  
Norma Burns  
Tony Bush  
Marilyn Campbell

Bill Cannon  
Marilyn Chilton  
Brian Collingwood  
Fran Cooney  
Dave Cox  
Joan Doucet  
Eric Hamelinck  
Doug Huddle  
Carrol Knowles  
Diane Labrie  
Rene Marchen  
Bob Moore  
Jerry Murphy  
Doug Murray  
Doug Pfeiffer  
Karl Polk  
Marg Polk  
Jim Rines  
Carole Rivington  
Judy Russell  
Karen Schneider  
Mike Schneider

Nick Sears  
Martin Secker  
Heather Sinclair  
Doug Swain  
Lee Thompson  
Henry Treier  
Joe Waller  
Larry Waller  
Rich Waller  
Sharon Windsor

### **Year Unknown**

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Jolly Hewson  
Jackie Langille  
Sally Loudon  
Doreen Main  
Lynne Rutherford  
Norma Sharpe  
Peter Swan

# Official Coffee of Curling Canada



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