

DHF

United States Women's
Curling Association



1947 - 1997

Historical Review

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1947 - 1997
This written history is dedicated to all
Sister Curlers

WHAT IS CURLING?

What is curling?
A sheet of ice with circles drawn. . .
Flat granite rocks - with handles on . . .
Bright tartan skirts - a tam - a bonnet . . .
A warm wool sweater with pins upon it . . .

IS THIS CURLING?

One bad inturn - a heavy sigh. . .
Or, one perfect shot with the brooms raised high . . .
A lucky wick, or a fouled stone gone . . .
But, to smile a bit and still play on . . .

IS THIS CURLING?

A heart felt loss - or the fun of a win
Will fade, as well - the prize or the pin
We know all this; the pride and the blame.
It's all of this. It is part of this game.

IS THIS WHAT IT REALLY IS?

What makes it special for all of us,
Is the super game with that added plus . . .
The meaning of the game, which has no end.
Is the Joy we find in a Curling Friend.

THIS IS CURLING!!!

Mary Van Ess
1987

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	iii
Acknowledgments	v
"Beginnings" of USWCA	3

Commentaries, Highlights and Awards

Past Presidents' Retrospective Comments	11
Officers: Past Presidents, Secretaries & Treasurers	24
1948 - The Mildred Nell Collection	30
1949 - USWCA National Bonspiel	36
1955 - The History of American - Scottish Ladies Tours	52
1966 - All - American Event	85
1977 - USWCA Championships	87
1979 - Ladies World Championship	93
1983 - USWCA Senior Women's Bonspiel.	97
1987 - Junior Ladies' National Championship	105
1990 - The Senior Women's Friendship Tour	111
1991 - USWCA/USCA Affiliation	114
1993 - Five Year and Under Challenge	116
1994 - Member-At-Large	116

Appendix

"The Bonspiel Room"	119
Mixed Curling	120
Olympic Curling	121

INTRODUCTION

The occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary Year of the organizing of the USWCA (United States Women's Curling Association) has prompted the compiling of this history.

The original file of historical USWCA material was lost, while in "safe" keeping (through the efforts of a bank employee to clean-up a storage area), in 1975.

Through the dedicated efforts of Shirley Elwell and a host of curlers who had saved materials through the years, a second repository was compiled in 1984. It is from this resource and the able assistance of current Reference Chairman, Luella Ansorge, that much of the material has been gathered. Additionally, many long-time members who have worked unfailingly through the years of the USWCA have written numerous parts of this book with first-hand knowledge of being there when it happened, including comments gathered from Past-Presidents in 1994 by Peggy Rotten which are particularly candid.

The minutes of the organization from 1947 to 1996: the reports, photos and scrapbooks of nationally sponsored events and sundry articles and publications also have helped in garnering the material.

Judy Maier, Vice President-Membership, in 1995-96 made the initial proposal to the Association "to appoint a committee to develop plans to celebrate the 50th Year of the USWCA". A competition for a commemorative pin was held. The winning design was submitted by Edith Workman, and the pin was available in the fall of 1996 to be worn during the 50th year. In October, 1995 President Margaret Otto initiated efforts to develop the plans by appointing an Ad Hoc committee for the 50th Anniversary celebration. Chairman: Nancy Rosenbaum-Milwaukee; Anne Robertson-The Country Club; Diane Taylor-Firari and Pat Reasa-Kettle Moraine: Helen Zentner-Wauwatosa; Doris Eberlein-Wausau Highlanders and Shirley Elwell-Milwaukee Killies.

As an organization matures, current and newer members are not always aware of the beginnings, the growth and changes that have taken place. Long-time members who have been a part of the process often are astonished to review what has come to pass and is now accepted as ordinary and on-going. The trials and tribulations that were involved and what has really been accomplished by the USWCA during the past fifty years has been gradual and continuing. What the organization is today represents transitions and growth during our existence. The current status of the Association is the direct result of the dedication of the individual curler who plays and enjoys the game, accepts and respects its disciplines, observes its courtesies and recognizes her responsibility to her local club, area or state organization, as well as to the national association. We, the USWCA, exist as a working organization of dedicated volunteers. We come together representing our individual clubs two times a year and take time to : collect and disburse funds, maintain uniform Rules and Regulations, promote curling on the local level, sponsor national competitions and develop international friendship tours.

The dedicated curler is willing to subordinate her own personal desires and wishes to the course of action that will be of current, as well as future, benefit to the grand game. The well-being of the Association and the game of curling as it exists today still depends on the curler who is willing to uphold the traditions, rules and friendly rivalry of the greatest game yet devised - CURLING !

In the process of reviewing our history, it becomes apparent that there has been a shift in emphasis from friendly competition to stalwart competitiveness. Nevertheless, as we reflect upon curling in the United States these last fifty years, it is hoped the memories of the camaraderie shared and the lasting affection that curlers have for one another, are still the "tie that binds".

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Shirley Elwell helped with proof-reading and making annotations for accuracy.

An exchange in word usage will be recognized; i.e. original "National Championship" became "National Bonspiel" as competitive "Championship" playdowns developed; the original term of "rink" (for 4 persons) to "team"; as well as "Ladies" and "Women". The words are written in the text as they were used historically.

Doris Eberlein, Editor

UNITED STATES WOMEN'S CURLING ASSOCIATION
Founded - 1947



Figure 1 - Bernie Roth February 4, 1941

"In retrospect, it seems only yesterday that the Wauwatosa Granites became the first organized Women's Curling Club in the United States. With a nucleus of determined women and the foundation of a very good constitution the Granites grew like "Topsy". Before long, several country club groups on the north shore of Chicago, as well as the wives of the Appleton Men's Curling Club in Wisconsin, were actively organizing. Also, according to the grapevine from The Country Club in Brookline, Massachusetts, some of the New England clubs were anticipating doing the same!

The Granites dreamed up a "Curling Fun Day" as a get acquainted vehicle and invited Indian Hill, Exmoor, and Skokie Clubs from the north shore of Chicago, Illinois and the Appleton wives from Wisconsin. It worked beyond all expectations; reciprocal invitations, thereafter, produced many more exciting ideas for the future of women's curling in

the United States. Necessary action was finally determined and the decision made that: "Each club choose two representatives (constituting a committee of ten) for the purpose of determining the strategy in planning a Constitution by giving all proposed ideas serious consideration so as to enhance the final determination at the earliest possible date."

The "chosen few" had their hearts and many hours in a plan to organize and were rewarded by having the Charter Clubs (Wauwatosa Granites, Indian Hill Squaws, Exmoor Highlanders, Skokie Thistles, and the Appleton Tam O'Shanters) wholeheartedly accept the same. It followed that the Executive Board was chosen from the working committee in part. In the final analysis each of the Founding Clubs accepted the fact that the Executive Board found it logical to THINK BIG and to welcome women curlers from EVERY STATE IN THE UNION TO JOIN."

Bernie Roth 1989, President 1947-1949

Editors Note: Bernie Roth became the first president of the newly formed United States Women's Curling Association. She curled from the Milwaukee Curling Club when she conceived the idea for a "Mixed" bonspiel. The first "Milwaukee Kilties Mixed Bonspiel" was held in January of 1951 and will celebrate its 50th year at the beginning of the 21st Century.



Figure 2 - Luncheon at The University Club. (l. to r.) Mrs. Edward L. Roth, Mrs. Graham B. Fee, Mrs. R. Emmett Doherty, Mrs. Walter H. Stiemke.



Figure 3 - At a dinner meeting at The Boulevard (l. to r.) Mrs. Helmus B. Wells, Mrs. Henry C. French, Mrs. Steuart Tray, Mrs. Verne Lemmer

BEGINNINGS OF THE UNITED STATES WOMEN'S CURLING ASSOCIATION

A small group of women meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in January of 1945 conceived the idea of an organization for women curlers.

On February 26, 1946 during an inter-club curling day at Wauwatosa, Wisconsin the idea was enthusiastically received by the clubs represented.

Mrs. Burns Nelthroppe was asked to form a committee to discuss the matter. Mrs. Steuart Tray, Chairman, Mrs. Edward Roth, Mrs. C. Pardee and Mrs. Herbert Kochs were appointed and met the same afternoon to further develop the idea. A committee of Mrs. Tray, Mrs. Roth and Mrs. French was appointed to work out a Constitution.

At the second meeting held on October 23, 1947 delegates from the five founding clubs met. They were Indian Hill, Wauwatosa, Exmoor, Skokie and Appleton. On November 10, 1947 the delegates elected officers, directors and an executive board. Dues were 25 cents per member and \$2.00 for each of the five clubs. At the next meeting held in February, 1948 dues were collected and the Glenview Witches joined the

USWCA. By 1949, the Utica Glengarries, the Chicago Heathers, the Milwaukee Kilties, the Medford Lockettes and the Wausau Highlanders had joined. Membership was 544 from 11 clubs. The Country Club - Brookline, Mass. affiliated in 1950 and the Bonnie Spielers - St. Paul, MN were the first club from the West in 1952. All four areas of the USWCA were now represented.

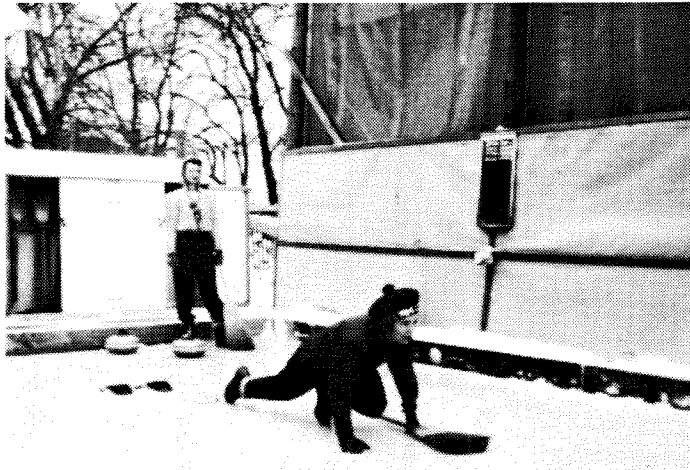


Figure 4 - 1948 Indian Hill outdoor ice with canvas windbreak.
Note blackboard for keeping score!

Individual membership reached an all time peak in 1982 with 5151 women enrolled. The highest number of member clubs was in 1987 when 93 clubs were eligible to send delegates to the Annual Meeting.

Constitutionally, the jurisdiction of the USWCA is vested in the five elected officers (President, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer) and a Board of Directors comprised of the five elected officers, the Chairman of each Standing Committee and one Representative of

each member club. Article XI of our Constitution reads in part: "The USWCA shall receive all of its prerogatives and powers from its member clubs." The Representative chosen to serve on the Board of Directors is elected, or appointed, by her own club. It is expected that this Representative will attend the two board meetings per year and be prepared to participate in the business on the published agenda, with instructions from her club on any matters to be presented for a vote. Of the two board meetings held each year, one meeting is held in the Fall of the year and one before the Annual Association Meeting at the time and site of the US Women's Nation Bonspiel, which traditionally is held in February of the following year. The Annual Association Meeting is open to all members and held during the banquet of the National Bonspiel.

For purposes of equitable representation in USWCA activities and sponsored events, the organization is divided into four areas-East, Central, Wisconsin and West. For geographic convenience West was subdivided into I and II in 1991.

The officers of the Association, who are elected to conduct and carry out the wishes of its members, are rotated among these four areas; the President-elect being elected from the area in which the National Bonspiel is to be the following year. Each officer is elected annually, using a three-step ladder of progression from 2nd Vice President (Membership Chairman) to 1st Vice-President (Club representatives and Education) to President-elect, who, after the two previous terms is elected with experience and knowledge of the organization.

The original Constitution read: "This Association has been formed and exists to promote and conserve the best interests and the true spirit of the game of curling among women throughout the United States, to unite all women's curling clubs in the United States, to cultivate friendly relations among its member clubs, to preserve the tradition and literature of the game and to hold, each year, a Women's Bonspiel".

In 1978 the USWCA voted to affiliate with the United States Curling Association (USCA). Although we remained an autonomous organization, we had two representatives on the Executive Committee of the USCA with 1 vote, and paid annual dues of \$300. This affiliation was terminated in 1986.

Three women have been honored by the USCA by being elected to the "Hall of Fame" through the Athlete/Curler Recognition Committee; 1991 - Mary Van Ess, 1993 - Ann Brown and 1996 - Bernie Roth.

The USWCA was a founding member of the Ladies' Committee of the ICF (International Curling Federation). This committee was organized in 1978 and served until 1991. Eleven countries were represented on the original committee. The United States' first representative was Shirley Ellwell and followed by Mary Van Ess, both appointed by the USWCA.

It was the Ladies Committee who initiated the Ladies World Curling Championships in March of 1979, securing the sponsorship, sites and participation of all eleven member countries. The first three championships were held in Perth, Scotland and since then they have been held in other member countries. Until 1988, they were held on their own, but since 1989 they have been and are now held in conjunction with the Men's World Curling Championship as the Women's World Curling Championship.

The International Curling Federation was required by the International Olympic Committee to change its name to the World Curling Federation (WCF) effective June 1, 1991, because there was a duplication of "ICF" with two other Olympic sports. The Women's World Curling Championship has been played under the auspices of the ICF/WCF since 1989. The minimum age for entry is set at 16 years of age. Constitutional and policy changes, initiated in 1986 on a national level when the United States and the rest of the world envisioned curling as an Olympic Sport, were responsible for major changes in curling organizations across the United States. Many of the local clubs, state, area and regional organizations adopted new Articles of Incorporation, Constitutions and Bylaws to comply with Olympic requirements.

Discrepancies in allegiance and the payment of dues to local, state and/or area and the two (USWCA, USCA) national organizations created a great change in rosters - both club and individual membershipwise.

The stability and strength of the USWCA was threatened with the decline in the numbers of clubs, as well as members enrolled, after the 1988 supposition of the USCA.

The USWCA originated the Women's National Championship in 1977 and the Junior Women's National Championship in 1987. All United States championships have been under the direction of the USCA since 1988. However, the USWCA continues to sponsor the trophy for the Junior Ladies Championship.

In keeping with its original purpose stated in the first Constitution, the USWCA today, fifty years later, exists "to promote and conserve the best interests and true spirit of the game of curling..." on the club level regionally, nationally and internationally through a multitude of nationally sponsored events.

The NATIONAL BONSPIEL is a 4-event, traditionally 32 rink bonspiel with attractive trophies for each event and handsome Association award pins for the winners and runners-up in each event. It is self-supporting through its entry fees and it is not required that a club give any more than its ice and its hospitality. The National Bonspiel sites are selected and rotated among the four areas: East, Central, West and Wisconsin; sites are usually selected four years in advance.

The first USWCA National Bonspiel was held in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin on February 24-27, 1949. Until 1952, up to five Canadian rinks were asked to fill out the entry of 32 teams. The entry fee was \$20 per team. The five founding clubs donated the trophies, which have been played for annually ever since. By 1953, the USWCA had grown so that entries to its National Bonspiel were accepted on a "first come-first served basis. Postmarks were used to determine the "first" 32 rinks. When the post office quit including the time in its mark, it was necessary to develop a new system. Club and regional playdowns were held to determine the

32 team entries from 1977 until 1992. With the decline in the number of clubs and a decreased membership, as well as the expansion of USWCA sponsored events, teams are presently drawn by lot from pre-paid "Good Faith" entry fees. 1993 saw the beginning of the use of composite teams from an area or from single entrants to complete a bonspiel of 32 teams.

The SCOT TOURS, an inter-continental curling event, began in 1955. A 16 member team of 8 women each from the United States and Canada toured Scotland for a month. A return team of 16 Scottish ladies curled two weeks in Canada and two weeks in the United States during January and February, 1958. The first tour held exclusively in the United States was in 1963 when 24 Scots were hosted by the USWCA. The first all USA team toured Scotland in 1966 and a USA team has been invited back every ten years; the Scots tours to the USA have been on the alternate ten-year intervals since 1971. The primary purpose of these tours is the fun of curling and international goodwill. There has never been a trophy for which to compete as the "winning" of new friends is reward enough.

The ALL-AMERICAN EVENT was first sponsored in 1966. Special pins are furnished without charge to each participating club from the USWCA to encourage involvement by the club's individual members in an intra-club event. Flexibility of rules allows for the variety in size of clubs.

The first UNITED STATES WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP was held in 1977 in Wilmette, Illinois. The winners of this event become the USA representative team at the Women's World Curling Championship. This was a USWCA sponsored event until 1988, when, because of Olympic regulations, its sponsorship was assumed by the USCA.

The first LADIES WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP was held in Perth, Scotland in 1979 under the direction of the Ladies' Committee of the International Curling Federation (now the Women's Committee of the World Curling Federation). In 1987 the Ladies World Championship was held in the USA for the first time in the Chicago area on the campus of Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, Illinois under joint auspices of the USWCA and the USCA. Following this international event the USWCA Championship trophies were donated to the USCA. The United States

Olympic Committee had ruled that it would only recognize one national governing body for curling, commencing in 1988. In July 1992, the International Olympic Committee approved curling as a Class A medal sport. The first scheduled appearance of the sport as such, was to be 2002; however, Nagano, Japan has elected to have the sport in the 1998 Olympics.

In January, 1983 the first USWCA SENIOR LADIES BONSPIEL was hosted by the Heathers of the Chicago Curling Club. This event is open to any member, 55 years or older, and is held mainly in the month of January. It is not to compete with the National Bonspiel dates. This was established as a 16 rink bonspiel enabling smaller clubs to host it. When held in a club with larger facilities the bonspiel has increased to 24 rinks, subject to approval by the Board of Representatives. There are trophies and pins for winners and runners-up in all four events. The first event trophy is an antique curling stone teakettle. The participation pins have been designed in the teakettle shape. The Senior Bonspiel is rotated among the four areas and is self-supporting.

Feasibility studies began in 1980 as to the potential of an adequate number of Junior Women (under the age of 21) to support a national event. Through the encouragement of women in the USWCA and under the leadership of Diane Brown, Madison Torries, this event was established. The first JUNIOR WOMEN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP was held in Madison, Wisconsin on January 21-24, 1987. Since 1988, the USCA has been the sponsor of this event. The trophies are from the USWCA.

In 1991 the USWCA became an affiliated association to the USCA (United States Curling Association). Membership dues are paid to the USCA on an individual basis as stipulated in the affiliation. The USWCA continues to serve its original purpose set forth in its first Constitution. Its integrity as an autonomous organization of women curlers continues. A USWCA Liaison appointee serves as a USCA Director and is a voting member of the Executive Council. The USWCA continues to exist as the oldest national women's curling organization in the world.

The SENIOR FRIENDSHIP TOUR between Canada and the United States for women over 50 became a reality in 1991 when 16 Canadian ladies and four United States couriers toured by bus to clubs in Minnesota and North Dakota. In February, 1994, 16 USWCA ladies were drawn by lottery to tour the Maritime Provinces of Canada during November, 1994. It is intended to be an exchange every three years. The tour will rotate through the four areas of the United States and is intended to promote curling friendships with our Canadian neighbors.

In 1993, the FIVE YEAR AND UNDER CHALLENGE, was introduced in response to the need of women with 5 years, or less, curling experience to develop skills in skipping by playing against their peers, as well as to experience the fun of bonspieling on a regional basis. The USWCA provides plaques to be displayed in the winner's club. Pins are supplied through fees collected by the self-sustaining event. The first challenges were played in 1994.

At the October, 4, 1996 Fall Meeting of the USWCA Board of Directors' Meeting it was voted to sponsor a NATIONAL JUNIOR WOMEN'S BONSPIEL. The age limit was set to be 14 (ninth grade) to 21 years of age; under 18 to be accompanied by a chaperone. Participation pins to be made for a period of 3 years by which time the viability of the event as a on-going, annual event would be determined. The first to be held: November, or early December, 1997.

A national pin collection, THE MILDRED NELL COLLECTION, is a visual reminder of all the clubs who have been members of the USWCA. The collection also includes pins from all the national events the USWCA has sponsored. Erffmeyer and Son, Inc. has been the "official" jeweler and pin (badge) supplier, designing our many keepsakes in collaboration with various members of the USWCA, throughout the years. The Erffmeyer Company (by ESCO) is located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The USWCA also serves its member clubs and members in numerous other ways. The RULES OF PLAY for the game are kept in review and current with World Curling Federation Rules. The REGULATIONS are the "rules" for our National Bonspiels. A REFERENCE

FILE is available for the member clubs to use and the Reference Chairman keeps and collects the archives of the USWCA. PROMOTION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS are carried out on the national level, as well as generating material to be used on the local level. This committee was established in 1985.

PAST-PRESIDENTS of the Association shall constitute an Advisory Committee with whom the officers may consult, if so desired. Each year the past-presidents are reminded that they all are advisors to the current president. They fulfill that assignment with grace, wisdom, advise, humor and encouragement.

1949-50 Millie Crispin

"It's unbelievable to me how far you have come since four women sat in the broom closet at the Wauwatosa, WI Granite Club in 1946 and dreamed up the outline for a national association. The four were: Sarah Tray (Wauwatosa Granities), Bernie Roth (Wauwatosa Granites), Mrs. Wendchuk (Appleton Tam O'Shanters) and Millie Kochs-Crispin (Indian Hill Squaws). We had five clubs in the U.S. curling at that time. The fifth was at The Country Club, Brookline, MA:

Best Wishes from your second President of the USWCA."

1954-55 Beulah Fitzgerald

"Your letter made me feel like I was your starting point-Thanks so much! One thing I remember was the women leaving to curl in Scotland. I saw the plane off. . they came back so excited and wanted to make it again for the women of Scotland to come here. We've made it come true!!

More power to you, USWCA!"

1960-61 Florence Setchell

"I'm still an active curler in Waltham, but no longer an "active bonspieler". I read the minutes of my year and I think the high-lights were revision of Bylaws and extending an invitation to the Scottish Ladies to visit the U.S. in 1963.

"I'll always remember the 1961 Bonspiel in Utica, NY. . . we were greeted by a snow-storm that tied up travel, but we survived, successfully."

1961-62 Marion Leifer

"I remember having to change our travel plans for the Utica meeting, because of a tremendous snow storm that blanketed the mid-west and went as far east as Utica. The train from Chicago was full of curlers, because the planes did not fly. Upon our arrival in Utica we were escorted through a narrow snow path to the hotel. The good news was we got there - the bad news was that the curling club had an ammonia leak and repair people could not get to the club to repair it. Should we cancel? Should we delay? Finally, the leak was fixed and the 'spiel went on.

As a board we dealt with many of the same problems: membership, management of the bonspiel, finances, etc. . . We were also preparing for a visit from the ladies from Scotland. The bonspiel was in St. Paul and true to Minnesota, it was cold and icy. At that time the bonspiel had a waiting list! One of the committees that function this year studied the possibility of giving officers some financial travel compensation."

1964-65 Marian Bruett

"Dear Sister Curlers, 'Nigh unto thirty years is too long to remember, but the growing pains were acute, way back then.

The heritage and joy I would like to share with you is seeing two sons, their wives, one ex-daughter-in-law, her husband and a grand-daughter and her husband, all avid curlers. My grand-daughter won the Wisconsin Badger Bonspiel last year - 1992 and will defend this year.

My interest in USWCA activities does't diminish."

1968-69 Shirley Elwell

"While my year as President did not set off any earth-shaking rumbles in the USWCA, it did manage to send a few ripples through one small Wisconsin club who resigned its membership when we raised the individual dues from 50 to 75 cents and the club dues from \$2.00 to \$5.00! Oh , for the good old days!"



Figure 5 - 1969 Officers photographed on the lawn at The Country Club during a break in the fall Board meeting:(l. to r.) Mrs Edward Stimpson, Mrs. Harrison Bridge, Mrs. John Bulger, Mrs Newton Hahne and Miss Mary Helen Dryden .

1970-71 Jean Bulger

"Happy Memories are too numerous to mention! The friendships I have made in these thirty-odd years are and always will be extra special!!

1970-71 was a busy year. In the Fall of '70 Diane Taylor-Firari called to report that the Reference Files had disappeared from the vault in the Portage Bank. We were in a state of shock. We hollered "help" and the old-timers came to the rescue with copies of their mementos.

Next on the agenda was organizing the 1971 Scottish Tour. What a great tour! The team arrived in Chicago. After gathering their wits they headed north thru Wisconsin and Minnesota - on to Utica and points of northern New York - down to Massachusetts and New York City - on then home.

As the tour team left for Scotland, the Annual Meeting of the USWCA was about to begin. The Reps were arriving in Chicago almost immediately. North Shore Curling Club was hosting. . . Everything was in apple pie order. . ."

This meeting is when the USWCA Championship was put on the drawing board. It was the very beginning of what is now an International Curling Competition.

I wouldn't trade my experiences in those thirty-odd years for anything!"

1973-74 Connie Marsh-Keith

"When I was in office, our most pressing problem was changing the method in which teams were selected for our National Bonspiel. When the 'spiel first started, the American women had too few rinks to fill the required number, so the Canadians helped us out. As time passed and we grew in numbers, we had too many teams wanting to play in the 32 rink Bonspiel. So, teams were drawn from the hat in the four areas. During my term we organized playdowns. You wouldn't believe how many difficult meetings this required!! Bunny Porter was a great help to me, traveling all over with me to present our proposed solutions."

1975-76 Ruth Saranen

"Virginia Curling Club, MN was allowed to have a 48 rink National Bonspiel with the help of the Eveleth Club, because we had voted to go to a playdown format with the four areas. We had 8 sheets of ice and I think everyone had a good time.

At the Fall meeting we voted to have a National Championship, and that was held the following February, with just a week between the Bonspiel and the Championship. It was held in Wilmette, IL and Joanne Miller, Chicago Heathers, was Chairman.

We were sued this year over an interpretation of the rules. The rule of eligibility stated that you had to be a member of a club for a year before you could enter national competition. However, the court decided the rule was ambiguous and allowed a team to enter with one member only two weeks being a member. I received the notice New Year's Eve about 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, and the hearing was 8:00 a.m. Friday mning. We did get a lawyer in time, but the judge decided against us. It was an interesting experience. When the team got to the Bonspiel, they were like a skunk on a Sunday School picnic!!"

1976-77 Diane Taylor-Firari

"Any number of things come to mind when I recall my term in office, because so much happened that year. The constitution was gone over with a fine tooth comb and rewritten to accommodate all the changes that had taken place - no small task. We filed as "not for profit" in Illinois.

A Scot Tour Team was selected, uniformed, indoctrinated and sent off to Scotland. The Fall Board meeting had never been larger, mainly because of all the girls heading to Scotland coming together in Portage to receive instruction from the Committee.

What was then called the USMCA began negotiating with us to become one combined association (much heated discussion), and most important of all Joanne Miller, in spite of the many naysayers, produced our 1st National Championship in Wilmette. The teams were subsidized, (much heated discussion).

We (USWCA) were invited for the first time to an ICF meeting in Sweden in 1977 and I asked Shirley Elwell to continue to be our first representative.

The year prior to this was spent on a preliminary meeting in Canada with correspondence between the original four countries who attended that meeting - Scotland, Sweden, Canada and the U.S.A..

There are two things that I shall never forget - one was a new rep who presented the Constitution Committee with two pages of objections regarding the Constitution revision THE NIGHT BEFORE THE MEETING! It kept us up until 2:AM covering all the points she'd raised. An finally - how intimidated I was at the thought of being a USWCA President and how very, very much I enjoyed every minute of it!

1977-78 Bunny Porter

"One of my first official jobs was to award pins to the winners of the very first USWCA Championship won by the Westchester Wicks with Margaret Smith, Skip and her daughter as Vice-skip.

There was lively correspondence that year with Don McKay, President of USCA. He wanted us to become members, so that our 5,000 count combined with theirs (15,000 in all) would give them a third seat on the ICF (now WCF). We explained we were a National organization and older than the USMCA and would never consider being a part of them with no representatives at all. In the end, we voted to become Associate Members and paid a fee equal to the cost of a third ICF seat, \$300. This gave the USCA equal representation on the ICF with Canada and Scotland.

The blizzard of the century occurred at the end of my term, forcing cancellation of the National Bonspiel! Those people who arrived on Monday gave us, fortunately, a quorum for the Tuesday Board meeting. No one could drive, or leave, until Friday or Saturday. We had a BYOB Welcome Party and the banquet was postponed a day. Teams and individuals, (55 in all) present provided excellent impromptu entertainment!"

1978-79 Marilyn Rustman

"As far as the synopsis of my year as President, you may recall that my term was Infamous! I was installed in 1978. . . the year of the "Big Blizzard" in Boston when very few curlers managed to get there (the Alaska team being one exception). All the preparations had been made for the Bonspiel which, of course, never happened and those of us who did get there spent a whole week at the hotel unable to leave.

winchester, MA. The three couriers for the tour were Marguerite Bard, Bunny Porter and Mary Van Ess. The team was captained by Betty Grierson and took home the honor of winning both by points and games."

1981-82 Renee Spencer

"The year of 1981-82 was a busy one! The first and last year that the President of the USWCA would officiate at 2 Women's Championships during her term of office. I was "installed" as President among the wonderful "Highlander Gnomes" of Wausau - then right down to Kettle Moraine for the US Women's Championship one week after the National Bonspiel.

The USWCA was still responsible for organizing and supervising the relatively new US Women's Championship as well as the National Bonspiel. We were beginning to negotiate with the USCA to determine what our relationship to each other was going to be. The beginnings of many future programs that we hoped for were underway. The dream of Olympic involvement was in the air. The Women's World Championship was only three years old.

A very important and hard fought issue that year was one of eligibility - both for the Championship and the Scot Tour. Citizenship was the question. After much preparation and debate it was resolved. Scot Tour participants were to be US citizens. Championship curlers of any nationality were to represent the United States providing they met residency requirements. Many, many appointments were made, including AdHoc Committees to study eligibility, US Women's Senior Bonspiel, Junior Championship, USCA -USWCA relationship among others.

The last hurrah was the US Women's Championship at Bowling Green - then on to Utica the next week for the National Bonspiel. I somehow managed during my presidential career to hog all three "first stones" delivered before the Bonspiel and the Championships. After the practice time, the fresh pebble didn't help! The true spirit of camaraderie that exists within the USWCA came through as my loyal sweepers - saving me much embarrassment - kicked each stone to the button!

It was a difficult year - but one that was productive and personally gratifying. I had the honor of working with a magnificent and cooperative Board of Directors, and treasure the friendships made and kept through the last 12 years, and the years before that while serving on the Board of the USWCA.

Though one's curling prowess may gradually fade, and involvement in our organization may diminish, the ties that have bound can last for a lifetime. This is the greatest joy in having been involved with the USWCA."

1984-85 Doris Eberlein

"I remember 1979 - sitting in Chicago from Monday to Thursday with Anne Altman, Ginny Schuetz and Josephine Stone, waiting for Boston Logan Airport to open following a snowstorm! We went to an exclusive French Restaurant one night, saw the road show of A Chorus Line the next, taught Jo to ride open escalators and glass elevators (a great fear) and played lots of bridge! American Airlines put us up M-T-W nights in the Palmer House and updated our reservation every 12 hours. We called Bonnie Porter, President every 12 hours too! We figured if we could get to Boston by Friday, the Bonspiel could go on. Not to be - we returned to Wausau on Thursday. The reimbursement from the airlines was generous - everything except \$58 RT, Wausau/Chicago!

Highlights of action taken during my term include:

1. Exmoor bid to host the 1987 World Ladies Curling Championship with Joan Smith (Exmoor) and Stephanie Flynn (Oak Park), co-chairmen.
2. Beginning correspondence with USCA from USOC that profits from 1984 Olympics are available for use only by 34 "Class A" sports.
3. First appointment of Ad Hoc Promotions and Public Relations.
4. First appointment of sub-committee to develop Coach Proposal for USWCA.
5. Changed appointment of President and 1st V.P. to USCA Executive Committee and Championship Procedure Committee Chairman; President to attend ex-officio.
6. Added Alaska to USWCA stationery logo.
7. Joint committee of USWCA/USCA to expand Patron Pin Program, i.e. discrepancy on how to divide funds.
8. Adopted new REGULATIONS for USWCA Senior Bonspiel, which was made a permanent committee.
9. Reference File recreated by Shirley Elwell. Complete inventory in October 4, 1984 minutes.
10. Minutes and notice for the Spring Meeting, 1985 were lost in the mail (from Chicago to the East), so voted that in the future all USWCA correspondence be mailed First Class.
11. Adopted new rule regarding smoking on ice during Championship: "No smoking" during the game!
12. Included Men's and Mixed Championship dates in our USWCA Roster."

1985-86 Anne Winslow

"In the mid 1980's, the greatest pressure on curling associations worldwide was acceptance into the Olympics Games. The Canadian president of the ICF was determined to have curling a demonstration sport in the winter games in Calgary. Championship Curling was still relatively new in the US, but success for our teams was seen to have major importance for the future of the sport and participation in the Olympics was a natural progression.

Hindsight makes my term as president of the USWCA seem much less hectic now than during 1985-86. I attended our Championships in Hershey and followed the Fairbanks team to Sweden and went on to Scotland for the Silver Broom.

The contrast between the world competitions for men and women was like night and day. In Sweden, 5 member of the Ladies Committee of the ICF, Winnie Bloomquist (1st

VP). Linda Barneson and her mother constituted the audience for the Ladies' World except for the opening and closing; by contrast, the Men's World was awash with curlers and ICF officers. The USWCA had been working for two (maybe three) years to find sponsorship for the Ladies World in 1987 when the event was to be held in the States. In Glasgow, we met Ian Browne of Glayva - the first real possibility of a sponsor. His company was promoting a new liquor and wanted to sponsor for two years, the second being in Glasgow. Mary Van Ess, Winnie and I had almost daily meetings with USCA officials to work out details. It was then (and only then) that we discovered that not the USWCA but the USCA, under ICF rules of membership, would be in charge of the event. Up until that time the sponsorship committee had been working with no help from the USCA. How this gap in the chain of command could have occurred is still a mystery; however, the independence of our two national organizations is unique and had not been understood by the ICF (I assume).

Originally the USWCA was founded in 1947 for clubs to be able to organize a national bonspiel. The USMCA followed some 11 years later and organized with individual members with state or geographical delineations. The two are very different constitutionally. In 1975, the USMCA began to solicit membership of the USWCA and subsequently changed its name to the USCA and welcomed female members. In areas where there were no ladies' curling clubs or where our 20 minimum could not be met, membership in the USCA was popular. This is true now because of the championship.

I first attended the USCA Executive Board meeting in Chicago as 1st VP with Doris Eberlein. For two years, we were at an impasse because the USCA offered no guarantees (written) that the USWCA would be able to continue to run our own affairs, set our dues, etc. Struggling to raise money for championships, the USCA envied us our cash position. We raised funds one year to be allocated the next season in support of Women's Championship and we built a Scot Tour fund from a percentage of annual dues. They alluded to our "full cookie jar" so often as to make us very uneasy. There is a letter in the file from me to Bob Hardy describing the terms from which I thought we might consider joining the USCA.

Following a vote at the October board meeting in 1985, the USWCA applied to the US Olympic Committee for membership. Precedent was set by the two field hockey associations. Meanwhile, claiming to represent all curling in the USA, the USCA had been admitted.

Subsequently, Ann Brown resolved the embarrassment by agreeing to withdraw our application, but she refused to dissolve our organization as requested.

As the saying goes, the rest is history. Women's Championship Curling became the responsibility of the USCA, but the USWCA continued to run it until the world events were held simultaneously. The USWCA has retained its autonomy and continues as an organization of clubs. We have lost members, but our activities have broadened to include a Senior Bonspiel and Friendship Tour. At the same time the USCA has accepted integration of its Board and officers by electing able women to serve.

I'm sure it is fortunate that very few USWCA members remember the events of 1985-86, as vividly as I do!"

1986-87 Ann Brown

"Prior to my becoming President, the USWCA had applied for membership on the United States Olympic Committee. As soon as I was elected I received a call from the USOC telling me that they would only recognize one organization of a sport (curling) and it would



Figure 6 - Past-President's attending the 40th Anniversary Celebration in October, 1987 included Front (l. to r.) Diane Taylor-Firari, Jean Bulger, Bernie Roth, Shirley Elwell, Doris Eberlein Ann Brown, Back (l. to r.) Rose Marie Barton, Lois Schulenburg, Ruth Saranen, Renee Spencer, Anne Winslow, Dorothy Ensign, Mary Van Ess

be the USCA. The gentleman told me that we would have to disband and join the USCA. I said that as we allowed the USCA to run National Championships and the Olympic Playdowns, wouldn't it be possible for us to exist for the women curlers in the United States. Well, he wasn't too sure about it, but if only one organization was recognized by them he thought it might be OKAY!

Shortly after that I was invited to lunch by a Vice President of the USCA and he informed me that the USCA was "taking over" the Women's National Championship and that the USWCA might just as well go out of business. After talking to the USWCA Board of Directors, we decided that it was important to get recognition from the Olympic Committee and so we said the USCA could run the Women's Championship.

My year was spent trying to make the transition run as smoothly as possible. We soon found the USCA was not in a position to run the Women's Championship and needed a lot of help. We also found that they were not interested in doing a lot of the things that the USWCA was doing for women curlers in the United States.

It was the start of better cooperation between the two organizations and I look forward to us continuing down the same road."

1987-88 Winnie Bloomquist

"The celebration of the Fortieth Anniversary of the founding of the USWCA in 1947 and the visit of the first president, Bernie, Mrs. Edward L. Roth, to our fall meeting in Grand Forks, was the highlight of the year in which I served as president of the organization. Twelve past presidents, in addition to Mrs. Roth, attended the banquet. We also celebrated the occasion by honoring the five founding curling clubs, including the Appleton Tam O'Shanter, Exmoor Highlanders, Indian Hill Squaws, Skokie Thistles and the Wauwatosa Granites. Each past president received a 40th Anniversary pin struck especially for the event and each founding club received a plaque.

Another highlight of 1987 was the hosting of a luncheon by the USWCA at the World Ladies Curling Championship in Lake Forest, Illinois, on March 26th. Over 200 persons attended the luncheon with 77 persons as guests of the USWCA. The guests included team members and dignitaries from each country taking part in the championship.

Jan Evinston and Margaret Otto were charged with designing a USWCA crest to be worn on jacket/uniforms."

1988-89 Peggy Jacobs

"Two exciting things happened the year I was President. First, the Senior Bonspiel was held in Anchorage, Alaska. The date was changed to February in order to take advantage of other happenings going on up there. The other event was the first combined Men's and Women's World Curling Championships held in April at MECCA in Milwaukee, WI.

I felt somewhat frustrated as far as moving the USWCA toward better relations with the USCA. A very nice man, who was USCA President, seemed to feel we weren't needed as allies. I had received a nice invitation to Detroit for the US Championships held in March, but "to keep things running smoothly" I was disinvited! Quite a few people told me he was not receptive to an alliance with the women and to just wait for changes in the personnel on the Board of the USCA. As you know, things have changed greatly since then, thank goodness. We have had wonderful women with great ideas who needed to be recognized."

1989-90 Joann Owens

1. Sent an invitation to the Scots to tour USA in 1991.
2. Released \$2,000 to the USCA to help fund an instruction manual.
3. Saw the start of the Senior Friendship Tour and the beginning of strong USWCA publicity.
4. Followed through and presented USWCA/USCA affiliation proposal at USCA March meeting with the help of Winnie Blooquist."

1990-91 Barbara Moses

"Three major foci occurred during my tenure as USWCA President.

We wrestled with and successfully dealt with a liaison status with the USCA, in the hope of strengthening our organization and the sport we love.

PROMOTIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS was created as a committee and under Shirley Bruce's able leadership began the task of reaching out to our membership to encourage more active participation. And finally, of course, we had the pleasure of hosting the 1991 Scot Tour Team and being part of the wonderful welcome they received across the country. It was a fortunate year to be President and to have the joy of trailing along behind Renee Spencer, Shirley Bruce and Diane Taylor-Firari as they chaired and led us through these exciting projects."

1991-92 Re Lacher

"Two problem areas were looked into and dealt with: the Treasurer's term and the National Bonspiel.

Treasurer: The Treasurer's position is difficult to master and very sensitive to the USWCA. The Board of Directors voted to allow the Treasurer, if she agreed, to be re-elected to a second term before following the established rotation.

National Bonspiel: The site of the National Bonspiel has definite effect on the number of participating teams. The Board of Directors voted to allow composite teams in order to fill out the Bonspiel. At the same meeting the Board voted to allow 8-end games at the discretion of host club. The October meeting in Madison, WI reopened the discussion of 8 end games and rescinded the vote, back to ten ends."

1992-93 Audrey Peterson

"1. The finalizing of the Canada/USA Senior Women's Friendship Tour upon receipt of the invitation from the Canadian Curling Association and the Maritime Provinces of Canada for a visit of sixteen senior women curlers to Eastern Canada in the fall of 1994. The Friendship Tour is an International exchange on a three year rotation basis.

2. The establishment of Promotions and Public Relations as a standing committee.

3. The appointment of the chairmen of the Membership and the Promotions & Public Relations Committees to membership on the USCA Club Development Committee and the budgeting of \$2,000 from the USWCA for the activities of this committee, "thus promoting curling and a better relationship with the USCA".

4. The appointment of an Ad Hoc Long Range Planning Committee, to be chaired by the 1st Vice President to address the need for more activities for our younger curlers."

The following are quotations from the US Curling News Fall of '92.

Commentary from the USWCA's Promotion & Public Relations Committee

"No reporting can convey the feeling of commitment to push on to resolve the problems that we face in our clubs, to work very hard to promote curling in all its aspects. There is a growing enthusiasm.

Curling's Olympic medal status is a shot in the arm. Curling will continue to flourish if every curler makes a concerted effort.

Reach out to help and be helped. Make use of the resources provided by both the USWCA and the USCA. Let your reps know what you need and expect from your organization. Attend meetings, voice your opinions, take part in decision making. Let's all pull together and see where it takes us."

Shirley Bruce

"USWCA President Audrey Peterson presided over the USWCA fall meeting in Madison, WI and addressed several USWCA problems and solutions, including the "doldrums", when the USWCA lost the National Championships and revitalization, with a grand 40th Anniversary celebration that reflected the USWCA's longevity, smooth-functioning and emphasized that the USWCA is "here to stay".

US Curling News

"USCA President David Russell was welcomed as an invited speaker. He spoke of the impact on curling of Olympic medal status. He mentioned the tension that seems to exist between the club and the competitive curler and hopes that Olympic funding will benefit both groups."

The USWCA/USCA relationship:

"With a feeling that all curling associations should work together to support the sport, the USWCA approved and received affiliate status with the USCA. With the appointment, of a USCA liaison, USWCA/USCA communications have and will continue to improve."

1993-94 Peggy Rotton

"In the call to the meeting Peggy referred to all officials, chairmen, representative and committee members, (volunteers, all) as stars who, working collectively together, give off enough energy to light the future of curling!

Initial regional competition for FIVE YEAR AND UNDER CURLERS was under way.

We are looking ahead with this fall's first adventure on the FRIENDSHIP TOUR when the USWCA makes its first foray to Canada, touring the Maritime provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island.

In a cost effective joint effort the USCA Membership and Club Development Committee and the USWCA Promotion and Public relations Committee produced and equally shared the cost of a poster, "The Hottest Sport on Ice". These have been distributed to all clubs."

USWCA NEWS

VOL. 1

JANUARY 1967

ISSUE 3

Greetings to the sixty Clubs who are now members of the U.S.W.C.A. As of the last count, the total membership is three thousand eight hundred curlers, an increase (from last year) of one hundred thirty-six members.

As always, a hearty welcome awaits all 60 Representatives of the above Clubs — especially from our two new Clubs in California and Pennsylvania — if they can possibly come to Chicago for the Annual Meeting in February!

MRS. FRANK A. DIXON
President, U.S.W.C.A.

STUDY COMMITTEE

The recommendations of the Study Committee, formed to clarify and define the duties of the Officers, were reported to the Board of Directors at their Fall meeting, as follows:

1. Publicity should be in the hands of the President and all publicity should clear through her.
2. The 1st Vice-President should be the Program Chairman. One of the purposes of this committee was to find a job for the 1st Vice-President.

Duties

- A. Plan and carry out a program for the Board Meetings as the need arises.
- B. Prepare information to be sent to the Representatives to be kept in their files and passed on to the next Representatives.

C. Information to be included:

1. Explain National Officers and their duties.
2. Rotation of Officers.
3. How the Nominating Committee works.
4. How Bonspiel site is chosen.
5. Trophy Collection.
6. Duties of a Representative.

Most of the above is in the Constitution but this would be in more detail.

3. If a Newsletter Committee is appointed, the make-up of this committee should follow the pattern of the Rules Committee.

(The pattern of the Rules Com. is that the incoming 2nd Vice-President chooses her Rules Chairman who is then the third member of that committee, moving up to the top when that officer becomes President.)

NEW MEMBERS

Joining the Association last October were

The Philadelphia Belles of Paoli, Penn.
(42 curlers and 2 sheets of ice)

The Granite Ladies of the Granite C.C.
(30 curlers and 5 sheets of ice)

WELCOME!

FUTURE NATIONAL BONSPIEL SITES

1967..... Saddle and Cycle
1968..... Duluth
1969..... Milwaukee

If unable to accept invitations to the USWCA they should be regretted promptly so that some other Club in line may have an earlier invitation.

The United States Women's Curling Association, established November, 10, 1947 has served women's curling well through the years because of its democratic process. The success of the many events and the promotion of curling among women in the United States is due to the dedication of the officers of the United States Women's Curling Association, the club representatives and the members of each club in the Association without exception . . . WOMEN OF VISION !



Figure 8 - 49th President, Judy Maier with Margie Knitter, 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting, On-site chairman and 50th President-Elect, Anne Robertson.

USWCA OFFICERS

1946	Committee discussing formation of the USWCA February 26, 1946 at Wauwatosa Club		
	Chairman	Mrs Steuart Tray	
	Secretary	Mrs Edward Roth	
	Mrs. Burns Nelthorpe, Mrs C. Pardee, Mrs. Herbert Kochs		
1947	Luncheon meeting of delegates, October 23, 1947 at Milwaukee University Club		
	President	Mrs. Roth	Wauwatosa Granites
	Secretary	Mrs. French	Wauwatosa Granites
	Treasurer	Mrs. Wendschuh	Appleton Torries
1948	President	Mrs. Edward Roth	Wauwatosa Granites
	Secretary	Mrs. Henry French	Wauwatosa Granites
	Treasurer	Mrs. Herbert Wendschuh	Appleton Tam-O-Shanters
1949	President	Mrs. Herbert Kochs	Indian Hill Squaws
	Secretary	Mrs. Robert Wilson	Skokie Thistles
	Treasurer	Mrs. Ralph Trischmann	Exmoor Highlanders
1950	President	Mrs. Henry French	Wauwatosa Granites
	Rec. Secretary	Mrs. William Bolton	Skokie Thistles
	Cor. Secretary	Mrs. Howard Tobin	Milwaukee Kilties
	Treasurer	Mrs. Ralph Treischmann	Exmoor Highlanders
1951	President	Mrs. Ernest Wentcher	Heathers of Chicago C.C.
	Rec. Secretary	Mrs. William Bolton	Skokie Thistles
	Cor. Secretary	Mrs. Donald Jones	Indian Hill Squaws
	Treasurer	Mrs. Steuart Tray	Wauwatosa Granites
1952	President	Mrs. Lucius T. Hill	The Country Club
	Rec. Secretary	Mrs. John Fitzgerald	Utica Glengarries
	Cor. Secretary	Mrs. Leo A. Bergerson	Nashua Curling Club
	Treasurer	Mrs. Charles Hovey	Westchester Wicks
1953	President	Mrs. Howard Tobin	Milwaukee Kilties
	Rec. Secretary	Mrs. Edward Kelly	Portage Tartans
	Cor. Secretary	Mrs. James Sprowl	Skokie Thistles
	Treasurer	Mrs. Charles Hovey	Westchester Wicks
1954	President	Mrs. John Fitzgerald	Utica Glengarries
	Secretary	Mrs. James Letridge	Schenectady
	Treasurer	Mrs. Ben Gurney	Madison Toories

USWCA OFFICERS Con't

1955	President Secretary Treasurer	Mrs. James Sprowl Mrs. Garrett Bergen Mrs. Ben Gurney	Skokie Thistles Indian Hill Squaws Madison Toories
1956	President Secretary Treasurer	Mrs. Lincoln Seibert Mrs. Frank Gale Mrs. Fred Duncombe	Westchester Wicks Westchester Wicks Chicago Heathers
1957	President Secretary Treasurer	Mrs. Elmer Freytag Mrs. Leslie Gage Mrs. Fred Duncombe	Exmoor Highlanders Exmoor Highlanders Chicago Heathers
1958	President Secretary Treasurer	Mrs. Douglas Evans Mrs. Lewis Phenner Mrs. Hughston McBain	Appleton Tam-o-Shanters Appleton Tam-O-Shanters Indian Hill Squaws
1959	President Secretary Treasurer	Mrs. Henry Jackson Mrs. George Kuehn Mrs. Hughston McBain	The Country Club The Country club Indian Hill Squaws
1960	President Secretary Treasurer	Mrs. Webster Setchell Mrs. Willis Wilson Mrs. Alvin J. Gessner	Waltham Curlerettes Utica Glengarries Arlington Nair-Doons
1961	President Secretary Treasurer	Mrs. L. A. Leifer Mrs. Harland Hogan Mrs. Alvin J. Gessner	Madison Toories Madison Toories Arlington Nair-Doons
1962	President Secretary Treasurer	Mrs. Wheaton Kittredge Mrs. Henri Prunaret Mrs. Robert Hurd	Brae Burn Brae Burn Utica Glengarries
1963	President Secretary Treasurer	Mrs. Arthur Long Mrs. Robert W. France Mrs. Robert Hurd	Glen View Witches Glen View Witches Utica Glengarries
1964	President Secretary Treasurer	Mrs. Tillman A. Bruett Mrs. Stewart Gray Mrs. Albert Degen	Wauwatosa Granites Wauwatosa Granites Skokie Thistles

USWCA OFFICERS Con't

1965	President Secretary Treasurer	Mrs. W. Ashton Swick Mrs. Eugene Fink Mrs. Henry Fuldner	Schenectady Schenectady Milwaukee Kilties
1966	President Secretary Treasurer	Mrs. Frank A. Dixon Mrs. Norman McLennan Mrs. Robert S. Hackett	Saddle & Cycle C. C. Saddle & Cycle C. C. Westchester Wicks
1967	President Secretary Treasurer	Mrs. Leonard Lindholm Mrs. Jerome Schwab Mrs. Robert S. Hackett	St. Paul Bonnie Spielers St. Paul Bonnie Spielers Westchester Wicks
1968	President Secretary Treasurer	Shirley Elwell Sylvia Duwe Mary Helen Dryden	Milwaukee Kilties Milwaukee Kilties Grand Forks Scotties
1969	President Secretary Treasurer	Ruth Bridge Peggy Stimpson Mary Helen Dryden	The Country Club Wellesley Hills Grand Forks Scotties
1970	President Secretary Treasurer	Jean Bulger Marion Agnew Lorraine Sheeran	Indian Hill Squaws Indian Hill Squaws Westchester Wicks
1971	President Secretary Treasurer	Mrs. Harriet Hahne Mrs. Ruth Saranen Lorraine Sheeran	Virginia Women's C. C. Virginia Women's C. C. Westchester Wicks
1972	President Secretary Treasurer	Lois Schulenburg Verna Adrian Elinore McComb	Appleton Tam-O-Shanters Appleton Tam-O-Shanters Exmoor Curling Club
1973	President Secretary Treasurer	Connie Marsh-Keith Mrs. Gifford Kittredge Elinore McComb	Nutmeg Curling Club Nutmeg Curling Club Exmoor Curling Club
1974	President Secretary Treasurer	Isabel Pollen Marion McConnell Jandy Kuechle	Chicago Heathers Chicago Heathers Wausau Highlanders
1975	President Secretary Treasurer	Ruth Saranen Mrs. James C. Giblinge Anne Altman	Virginia Women's C. C. Virginia Women's C. C. Wausau Highlanders

USWCA OFFICERS Con't

1976	President Secretary Treasurer	Diane Taylor-Firari Julie Jensen Dorothy Ensign	Portage Tartans Portage Tartans Duluth Women's C. C.
1977	President Secretary Treasurer	Bunny Porter Barbara Barr Dorothy Ensign	Wellesley Women's C.C. Wellesley Women's C.C. Duluth Women's C.C.
1978	President Secretary Treasurer	Marylyn Rustman Mary Wernecke Anne Burchesky	North Shore C. C. North Shore C. C. Utica Glengarries
1979	President Secretary Treasurer	Rose Marie Barton Ann Carlson Anne Burchesdky	St. Paul Bonnie Spielers St. Paul Bonnie Spielers Utica Glengarries
1980	President Secretary Treasurer	Mary Van Ess Henrietta Brehm Bobbe Tallant	Wauwatosa C. C. Wauwatosa C. c. Skokie Thistles
1981	President Secretary Treasurer	Renee Spencer Rose Thorson Bobbe Tallant	Winchester C. C. Winchester C. C. Skokie Thistles
1982	President Secretary Treasurer	Jeanne Farmer June McInnes Peggy Jacobs	Mayfield C. C. Mayfield C. C. Blackhawk Broms
1983	President Secretary Treasurer	Dorothy Ensign Beverly Anderson Peggy Jacobs	Duluth Women's C. C. Duluth Women's C. C. Blackhawk Brooms
1984	President Secretary Treasurer	Doris Eberlein Marge Larsen Betty Kozai	Wausau Highlanders Wausau Highlanders Granidears of Seattle
1985	President Secretary Treasurer	Anne Winslow Betty Ferris Betty Kozai	The Country Club The Country Club Granidears of Seattle
1986	President Secretary Treasurer	Ann Brown Janet Alsteen June Walters	Exmoor Country Club Exmoor Country Club Phildephia Belles

USWCA OFFICERS Con't

1987	President Secretary Treasurer	Winnifred Bloomquist Joy Bakken June Walters	Drayton Ladies C. C. Drayton Ladies C. C. Phildelphia Belles
1988	President Secretary Treasurer	Peggy Jacobs Grace Crandall Sue Hadsell	Blackhawk Brooms Blackhawk Brooms Mayfield Country Club
1989	President Secretary Treasurer	Joanna Owens Jill Owens Sue Hadsell	Nutmeg Curling Club Nutmeg Curling Club Mayfield Country Club
1990	President Secretary Treasurer	Barbara Moses Cheryl West Beverly Ferguson	Chicago Heathers Chicago Heathers Blackhawk Brooms
1991	President Secretary Treasurer	Rose Marie Lacher Jennifer Bonner Beverly Ferguson	Virginia Ladies C. C. Virginia Ladies C. C. Blackhawk Brooms
1992	President Secretary Treasurer	Audrey Peterson Jane West Karen Leksell	Madison Toories Madison Toories Duluth Women's C. C.
1993	President Secretary Treasurer	Peggy S. Rottom Sharon Halligan Karen Leksell	Utica Glengarries Utica Glengarries Duluth Women's C. C.
1994	President Secretary Treasurer	Donna Purkey Ilse Guldbek Karen Leksell	Chicago Heathers North Shore C. C. Duluth Women's C. C.
1995	President Secretary Treasurer	Margaret Otto Dorothy LaBrash Karen Leksell	Cairn Lassies Cairn Lassies Duluth Women's C. C.
1996	President Secretary Treasurer	Judy Maier Bonnie Dixon June Balduf	Kettle Moraine Kettles Kettle Moraine Kettles Utica Glengarries
1997	President Secretary Treasurer	Anne Robertson Lee Ladd June Balduf	The Country Club The Country Club Utica Glengarries

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Figure 9 - Mildred Nell, Original pin Chairman.

THE MILDRED NELL COLLECTION

The USWCA Pin Collection dates back to 1948 when an official United States Women's Curling Association bonspiel pin was designed.

In 1954 the Association voted to adopt the shape of the United States map as the background for its official pins. Each individual member of the USWCA is entitled to wear the pin. In 1967 consideration was made for a new pin to include Alaska. Three pin designs were submitted, but it was voted unanimously to keep the USWCA pin in its original form. By 1992 new membership pins, finally including Alaska, were designed and available for purchase.

Member clubs have always had club pins and it was in 1955 that a collection of these pins was started. Each club has its own pin - many are designed in keeping with the club's name. For example: the Appleton Tam O'Shanter's pin depicts a Tam O'Shanter; the Exmoor Highlander's, a Scottish Glengarry tam; the Indian Hill Squaws, an Indian maiden; the Skokie Thistles, a thistle; and the Wauwatosa Granites, a curling stone. These clubs are the founding members of the Association. As each new club joins the USWCA it sends one of its pins to be added to the national collection.

From its inception, the pin collection was watched over by Mrs. Erwin Nell of the Wauwatosa Granites. After her death in 1964 Mr. Nell presented a portable showcase for the pins to the USWCA in her memory. The collection was officially named the "Mildred Nell Collection" at that time.

Other special pins have been added to the collection, including: each year's nationally sponsored events, as well as pins struck for exchange tours and commemorations.

US Curling News
February, 1973

INVENTORY OF MILDRED NELL PIN COLLECTION

CENTRAL AREA

Bowling Green Curling Club
Cleveland Skating Club
#Chicago Saddle & Cycle CC
Detroit Rockettes
*Exmoor Highlanders
#Glenview Witches
Heathers of Chicago Curling Club
*Indian Hill Squaws

Mayfield Country Club
#Midland Granite Club
North Shore Lassies
Oak Park Acorns
*#Skokie Thistles
Waltham Curliettes
Wilmette Curling Club

EAST AREA

Albany Wicks
Ardwicks
Belfast Curling Club
#Braeburn Curling Club
Broomstones
#Buffalo Curling Club
Cape Cod Curling Club
#Hershey
Nashua Country Club
Nutmeg Curling Club
Petersham Curling Club

Philadelphia Belles
Plainfield Curling Club
Rochester Curling Club
Schenectady Curling Club
The Country Club
Triangle Curling Club
Utica Glengaries
#Wellesley Curling Club
#Weschester Wicks/Ardlsley
#Weston Curling Club
Winchester Country Club

WEST AREA

Ak-Sar-Ben Curling Club
Ak-Sar-Ben - Omaha
Anchorage Curling Club - Northern Lights Ladies
Arden Hills Club
Arden Hills Cairn Lassies
Bemidji Curling Club
#Bisbee Ladies Curling Club
#Buhl Curling Club
#California Granites
Cavalier Curling Club
#Chishom Curling
#Denver Columbine Curling Club
Drayton Ladies Curling Club
Duluth Ladies Curling Club
#Edmore Curling Club
Eveleth Curling Club
Fairbanks Curling Club
Fargo-Moorhead Curling Club
#Fordville Curling Club
#Fortuna Curling Club

Gateway Curling Club
Gilbert Curling Club
Grafton Heathers
Grand Forks Scotties
Granite Curling Club
Heatherettes - Mapleton
#Hibbing Ironettes Curling Club
Hibbing Curling Club
International Falls Curling Club
Itasca Curling Club
#Lake Region Curling Club
Langdon Curling Club
Mankato Tammies
#Minot Curling Club
#Petersburg Tammies
St. Paul Bonnie Spielers
#Stephen Club
#Thief River Falls Curling Club
Virginia-Lenont Curling Club
#Walsh Curling Club
#Williston Basin Curling Club

WISCONSIN AREA

Alpine Curling Club	Medford Curling Club
*Appleton Tam-O-Shanters	Milwaukee Kilties
Arlington Nair Doons	#Pardee Pipers
Bay Boonies	Portage Tartans
Blackhawk Brooms	Poynette Glengarries
Clintonville Broomettes	Racine Bonnie Bells
Kettle Moraine Curling Club	#Point Pipers
Lakeshore Curling Club	Superior Tammies
#LaCrosse Coulee Kilts	#TriCity Luckies
#Lodi Lauries	#Waupaca Lochs
Madison Toories	Wausau Highlanders
Madison Curling Club	*Wauwatosa Granites
* Founding Member	# No longer Member

BONSPIEL PARTICIPATIONS PINS

1948	1st	U.S. Ladies Bonspiel	1974	26th	Ardley/Westchester
1949	1st	USWCA Bonspiel	1975	27th	Chicago/Indian Hill
1950	2nd	Chicago	1976	28th	Virginia
1951	3rd	Wauwatosa	1977	29th	Kettle Moraine
1952	4th	Utica	1978	30th	Wellesley/Weston Cancelled/Blizzard
1953	5th	Milwaukee	1979	31st	Exmoor
1954	6th	Madison	1980	32nd	Arden Hills
1955	7th	The Country club	1981	33rd	Wausau
1956	8th	Chicago/Indian Hill	1982	34th	Utica
1957	9th	Detroit	1983	35th	Mayfield/Cleveland
1958	10th	Schenectady	1984	36th	Duluth
1959	11th	Wausau	1985	37th	Madison
1960	12th	Exmoor	1986	38th	The Country Club
1961	13th	Utica	1987	39th	North Shore
1962	14th	St. Paul	1988	40th	Bemidji
1963	15th	Portage	1989	41st	Wauwatosa
1964	16th	Brae Burn	1990	42nd	Schenectady
1965	17th	Wauwatosa	1991	43rd	Chicago/Skokie
1966	18th	Schenectady	1992	44th	Duluth
1967	19th	Saddle & Cycle Club	1993	45th	Kettle Moraine
1968	20th	Duluth	1994	46th	Broomstones
1969	21st	Milwaukee	1995	47th	Cleveland
1970	22nd	The Country Club	1996	48th	St. Paul
1971	23rd	North Shore	1997	49th	Milwaukee
1972	24th	Grand Forks	1998	50th	Utica
1973	25th	Appleton			

SENIOR BONSPIEL PARTICIPATION PINS

1983	Chicago	1991	Ardsley
1984	Milwaukee	1992	Mayfield Country club
1985	Virginia	1993	Arden Hills/St. Paul
1986	Kettle Moraine	1994	Green Bay
1987	Winchester C. C.	1995	Albany
1988	Indian Hill/Skokie	1996	Waltham
1989	Anchorage	1997	Mapleton
1990	Wausau		

USWCA PINS

Original Membership Pin	All-American Pin
Revised Membership Pin	Eight End Pin
40th Anniversary Pin	50th Anniversary Pin

USWCA / SCOTTISH TOUR PINS

1955	Canadian & American Ladies Visit to Scotland
1958	Scottish Ladies 1st Canadian & US Curling Tour
1963	Scottish USA Tour
1963	Scottish Ladies Visit to USA
1966	USWCA Scottish Tour
1966	American Ladies visit to Scotland
1971	Scottish USA Tour
1971	Scottish Ladies Tour USA
1976	USWCA Scottish Tour
1976	American Ladies Visit to Scotland
1981	Scottish USA Tour
1981	Scottish Ladies Visit to America
1986	USWCA Scottish Tour
1986	American Ladies Visit to Scotland
1991	Scottish USA Tour
1991	Scottish Ladies Visit to USA
1996	USWCA Scottish Tour
1996	American Ladies Visit to Scotland

USWCA / CANADIAN FRIENDSHIP TOUR PINS

1990	USWCA Friendship Tour
1990	Canadian Friendship Tour
1994	USWCA Friendship Tour

USWCA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

1977 thru 1986

USCA LADIES NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

1987 thru 1990

USCA MEN'S & WOMEN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

1991 Utica
1992 Grafton
1993 St. Paul
1994 Duluth
1995 Appleton
1996 Bemidji
1997 Seattle

150th ANNIVERSARY

1995 Milwaukee Curling Club

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PINS

WOMEN

1979 Perth, Scotland
1980 Perth, Scotland
1981 Perth, Scotland
1982 Geneva, Switzerland
1983 Pioneer World
Moose Jaw Canada
1984 Perth, Scotland
1985 Jonkoping, Sweden
1986 Pioneer World
Kelowna, Canada
1987 Lake Forest - Chicago

MEN & WOMEN

1989 Milwaukee, Wisconsin
1989 Milwaukee Commemorative World Pin
1990 Vasteras, Sweden
1991 Winnipeg, Manitoba
1992 Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany
1993 Geneva, Switzerland
1994 Oberstdorf, Germany
1995 Brandon, Manitoba
1996 Hamilton, Ontario

MEN

1988 Lausanne, Switzerland



Figure 10 - 1973 During the 25th Anniversary (l. to r.) Mrs. Henry Bailey-Bonspiel Chairman, Mrs. M.J. Schulenburg- USWCA President, review the Pin collection with Mrs. C.B. Sitterson, Pins & Trophies Chairman.



Figure 11 - Amy & Bob Erffmeyer with Margare Otto, Past President and former Pins & Trophies Chairman, Erffmeyer & Sons, Inc. our official supplier of pins & trophies were recognized during the 50th meeting.

THE USWCA NATIONAL BONSPIEL

The National Bonspiel was the original national event to bring the founding of the United States Women's Curling Association into fruition.

The first USWCA National Bonspiel was held in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin on February 24-27, 1949. Until 1952, up to five Canadian rinks were asked to fill out the entry of 32 teams. The entry fee was \$20 per team. The five founding clubs donated the trophies, which have been played for annually ever since. In 1953, the USWCA had grown so that entries to its National Bonspiel were accepted on a "first come-first served" basis. Postmarks were used to determine the "first" 32 rinks. When the post office quit including the time in its mark, it was necessary to develop a new system. Club and regional playdowns were held to determine the 32 team entries from 1977 until 1992. With the decline in the number of clubs and a decreased membership, as well as the expansion of USWCA sponsored events, teams are presently drawn by lot from pre-paid "Good Faith" entry fees. 1993 saw the beginning of the use of composite teams from an area or from single entrants to complete a bonspiel of 32 teams.

With a format established from the beginning for the four day, 32 rink bonspiel, participants taking part in the annual event become familiar with the schedule. It is wonderful to come together each year, renewing old friendships and developing new ones, knowing fairly well what the usual 16 - 18 hour day will be like!

MINUTES EXCERPTS FROM THE FALL MEETING, 1949

Mrs Roth reported on Bonspiel pins for 1950. Two designs submitted, discussed through luncheon. Moved by Mrs. Roth, seconded by Mrs. Pollen to accept design of Erffmeyer. Design was of US map in outline, two sprays of heather and a bow in center, USWCA across the top, 2nd Bonspiel on pin, 1950, green enamel background. Second Bonspiel lettering will be gold letters on white enamel background. Bow of red and green, heather raised and tipped. 1950 in gold.

Board discussed Bonspiel Entertainment - a Cocktail Party before opening banquet dinner. Probably 175 Curlers - hour 6:30 to 7:30. Mrs. Trieschmann moved that \$175.00 may be used for a Cocktail party. Bonspiel dinner and menu approved - \$3.25 per person; people not curling shall pay same price.

Mrs. Roth moved that three hundred 1950 Bonspiel pins be ordered. Mrs. Loomis seconded. Carried.

Postponed discussion of buying mimeograph machine to next year's Board. One not needed this year.

Price of hotel rooms for Bonspiel Curlers submitted. \$16 - \$18 per unit. That is, \$4 each, having one bath for four people. Small suites, \$15 - \$18; larger suites, \$18 - \$21 - \$25; twin bedrooms, \$10; single bedrooms, \$6.

Bonspiel Rules to follow precedent. Secretary to write to Mrs. R.C. Brown, Chairman of Rules, to answer questions on aggregate score and tie scores.

- a. One point per end for a forfeited game.
- b. No tossing of coin after a tie game, winner of last end leads off.
- c. No more than ten points.
- d. If a tie in aggregate score, 10-point limitation will be waived and the original score taken.
- e. In case of a tie, total plus is credited to the rink.
- f. Trophy for aggregate score will be awarded rink with highest score regardless of wins and losses.

Secretary to write each Club Secretary for names of members, other than those in rinks, who are planning on attending the Bonspiel banquet, and requesting a check covering their reservations (\$3.25). In by February 1st.

Each host club creates a scrapbook and gives a report of its bonspiel to the National Bonspiel Procedure Committee and the Board of Directors. These records are kept in our USWCA Reference files for five years and then returned to the respective clubs. So, the written history of the bonspiels should be with every club which has ever honorably hosted a USWCA National Bonspiel.



Figure 12 - From the Wauwatosa Granites Program Cover for the First US Women's Bonspiel, February 25-28, 1948 . This was followed in 1949 with the First USWCA Nation Bonspiel hosted by the Granites.



Figure 13 - 1952 Travel was by train. Members of Wauwatosa Granites leaving Milwaukee for bonspiel in Utica, NY.

The 25th and 40th Bonspiels were special in their commemoration of our founding. The 28th Bonspiel in 1976 is remembered as the Bicentennial Bonspiel with 48 entries; the only time that it was larger than 32 teams. However, the 30th bonspiel was renumbered as the 29 7/32th Bonspiel (seven rinks of the 32 were able to get to the Boston Area), or, is remembered as the BLIZZARD "BLIENDLY" (FRIENDLY?). Its report follows:

THE 29 7/32 NATIONAL BONSPIEL
or
THE BLIZZARD BLIENDLY

Boston Marriott, Auburndale, Massachusetts
February 6-11, 1978

Ice conditions impossible. Weatherman failed to control faucet on Monday and Tuesday during final flood. Thirty six inches were allowed to build up.

Monday some curlers and some of those planning to attend the USWCA Annual Board Meeting arrived at the Marriott where they would be forced to remain for several days. The Wellesley and Weston Representatives could not reach the Marriott Tuesday, but the rink from Alaska was there.

One member, Doris Fisk of the other Alaskan Rink, Northern Lights, checked in and said:

"Alaskans in a Boston snow
There is more to it than a happy glow!
There were many around
With questions profound
Of course, we Northern Lights would know
How to shovel and not to fuss,
When to say "Sweep" and when to say "Mush".

Doris' baggage had been lost in transit. By the end of the week, she was hoping it would never arrive, for in it she had thoughtfully packed twenty-five pounds of reindeer sausage.

One of the Representatives, Delores Polinow, suffered an even more traumatic experience. On Wednesday she hiked through the snow 1 1/2 miles to and 1 1/2 miles back to purchase some Mateus Rose. Cold and exhausted, but with a smile of triumph on her bosom, she returned to her hotel room to find she had no cork screw.

The number of new friends Nat Whitten made is really remarkable. Arriving at the Marriott Monday afternoon without a change of clothes. Nat remained for several days.

Because the sound of snow plows and shovels would be concentrated on digging out the buried highways and cities, Joy Marinucci was under the misapprehension that the blizzard meant a week of rest and relaxation. The very next morning at dawn she was awakened by the sound of scraping shovels on the balcony outside her room - the cities and highways ignored.

One curler scribbled on a piece of note paper:

"Here I sit in utter dismay.
What's the governor saying today?
Can I fly or take a bus
Or do I have to make a fuss?
Have you found it a little strange
That the schedule has been rearranged?
This Boston weather sure is wierd
A raging snow storm we had not feared."

By Airport Limousine the Grand Forks rink arrived at the Marriott only to have the driver of the car behind jump out and berate each individual with demands for full payment for side-swiping his car when the limo maneuvered the

Route 128 ramp. If the driver had not refused to stop at a liquor store as asked, he might have missed being on the ramp with the irate car owner. On the other hand, five minutes later and the limo driver would have missed the whole ramp.

Leaving her bedroom door open one morning, the President of the USWCA, Bunny Porter, because of the snowed-out maid service, was making the beds, when two young men burst boldly in and said, "Could we please have clean linen when you make up Room 539?"

The Nashua, New Hampshire rink was not to be outdone by the feat of arrival of a full rink from Alaska. Wednesday they departed from home - taking back roads with a car loaded with curlers, shovels, sand and brooms. The State Police stopped them two miles from the Marriott, but allowed them to proceed to their destination. Proceed they did for one mile to find their lane completely blocked. Nevermind, the Skip, Nancy Wilbur, pulled a quick in-turn into the oncoming lane for, after all, what was the matter with a wrong-way highway? There wasn't another car on the road.

The Westchester Wicks took the train from New York and arrived safely in Boston at South Station to be informed that there was no means of transportation to the Marriott. They spent many a lonely hour sitting at the station waiting for the milk train back to New York - only because they refused the invitation of a kind gentleman who invited them to his nearby hotel room in as much as he had a six pack of beer. Would they have accepted if he had had more?

In order to enchant the swimming pool at the hotel, Mary Van Ess purchased a lovely new bathing suit. The only curler seen wearing it was Shirley Elwell. Was that towel shrouded figure huddled in the sauna Mary Van Ess?

The quorum for the Board Meeting was important, but not nearly as important as the one in the parking lot Wednesday morning. The Secretary had been most thoughtful of the curlers arriving in the dark Monday night and had left on her car head lights. David Porter, the Chairman of the Battery Crisis Committee, after a great deal of research, discovered the Representative from Hershey, Kathleen Shuey, had jumper cables. Elisabeth Childs had thoughtfully parked her car next to Barbara's and Renee Spencer only two cars away. After an attempt with both live batteries having failed, the cables were discarded. David called the meeting to order. The quorum consisted of at least 25 males, ranging in age from 12 to 80. The motion was made to purchase a new battery. Seconded. Carried. One of the quorum members was happy the meeting was over. He was shivering in light weight slacks and was hoping to be able to get a quick plane to California. His wife had informed him via phone the grass needed cutting.

A spirit of camaraderie enveloped the hotel. Therefore, one morning Renee Spencer was shocked when she stepped into the elevator at the 5th floor to be chastised by the convention of men from the 7th floor already in the elevator. "Where were you lady curlers last night?" Renee innocently asked, "Why? What

do you mean?" The reply, "We had the 7th floor corridor flooded and ready. Not one of you appeared!"

Nancy Sharp made the 3 mile hike through the snow and back in order to buy her roommate some Polident. Did the roommate get the message?

By Thursday, the manager of the Marriott, snowed in with no wardrobe, was dressed neatly in a suit and vest but no shirt. One of the waitresses was washing it for him. It was thought he might have at least worn a necktie.

The Eveleth rink had a saga to tell entitled " Don't worry, Everything will be just fine." The title is a quotation of the last words expressed to the Skip's husband when the rink left home at 6:00 AM Tuesday. They arrived at the Airport to find the flight cancelled. Don't worry, there will be a later one. The next morning found the rink on a flight to New York. A train from New York landed them at the Back Bay station where there was no cause to worry as the Colonade Hotel was within walking distance. No need to worry about carrying baggage as a strange man appeared and offered to do so. Suddenly the helpful luggage carrier flashed a BIG GUN at the curlers. He didn't have to worry. They gave him the purses. No need to worry. The man didn't shoot. A trip to the bank in the morning would solve the cashless problem. No banks were open. However, friends provided credit card numbers. A friend in Massachusetts obtained an emergency pass to spirit the group safely to the Marriott in time for the Banquet Thursday evening. Everything was just fine. The Skip, Ruth Carlson, later wrote, " Now don't worry. Everything was just fine. Long after the snow melts and bad moments forgotten, the memories of all the beautiful people will remain. The caring, sharing, hospitality, friendship - that will prevail. So isn't it great to realize that everything at the 1978 USWCA Bonspiel was just fine." News Flash - purses found and mailed to Skip. All contents there except money and travelers checks. The Skips' comment, " Hangeth in there".

Friday the curlers assembled in the hotel lobby to begin the 2 1/2 mile march through the snow to Brae Burn. No one could leave until a mad search had been made for Jaci Walter's purse. The new President, Marilyn Rustman, performed her first official act by telling Jaci the purse was strapped to her back. At Brae Burn, Helen and Les Burton and Floss Brooks not only greeted the curlers but joined in their game. David Porter had thought he would never ever make a playdown for the Women's Nationals. He and Les Burton did - they curled in the first day of the Blizzard Bliendly. At lunch the curlers were wined and dined (peanut butter sandwiches) at the Burton's home.

Saturday, Broomstones, which was to have been the site of the 30th Annual Bonspiel, was reached by car. It was the site of the second of the Blizzard Bliendly, a fun day of curling with mix and match rinks.

Who knows who won the games? All of us at the Marriott won. The fellowship, good humor and sportsmanship of curlers was there. And, after all, that is what curling is all about.

Bunny Porter
Wellesley Women's Curling Club

The 49th Bonspiel hosted by Milwaukee Kilties, Ozaukee Country Club in Mequon, Wisconsin introduced the 50th Anniversary celebration with a grand opening. The first President, Bernie Roth, held the broom, the 49th President, Judy Maier, delivered the stone and it was swept into the house by eleven Past Presidents uniformed in bright red blazers: Ruth Saranen, Diane Taylor-Firari, Rose Marie Barton, Renee Spencer, Ann Brown, Peggy Jacobs, Joanna Owens, Rose Marie Locher, Peggy Rotton, Donna Purkey & Margaret Otto.

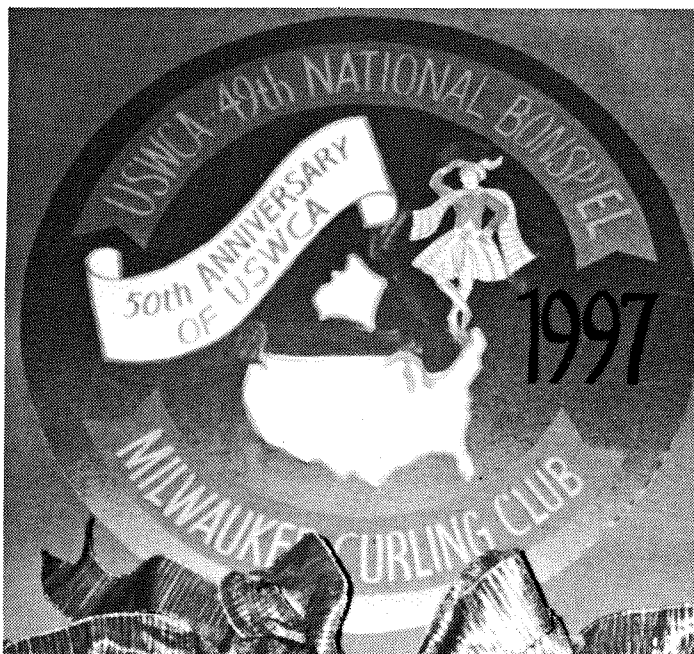


Figure 14 - The 50th Anniversary Insignia

The highlight of the 50th Annual Meeting, February 13, 1997 was the charming presence of Ellen Sprowl, eighth President of the USWCA. Her delightful presentation of her remembrances of past events in curling enamored all members in attendance.



Figure 15 - Ellen Sprowl, 8th President, 1955 -56 as she appeared at the 49th Annual Meeting February 13, 1997.

The winner of the 49th Annual Bonspiel was a team from Fairbanks, Alaska, our 49th state. A unique coincidence and a wonderful beginning for the 50th anniversary year.

USWCA NATIONAL BONSPIEL
TROPHIES - DONORS

FIRST EVENT WINNER Trophy	Silver plated punch bowl on walnut base Donated by Wauwatosa Granites Individual engraved punch cup to each team member.
FIRST EVENT RUNNER-UP Trophy	Silver plated Paul Revere Bowl on ebony wood base. Donated by Appleton Tam O' Shaners
SECOND EVENT WINNER Trophy	Silver plated wine cooler on ebony wood base Donated by Indian Hill Squaws
SECOND EVENT RUNNER-UP Trophy	Ice bucket on black walnut base Donated by Kettle Moraine
THIRD EVENT WINNER Trophy	Silver plated coffee urn Donated by Exmoor Highlanders
THIRD EVENT RUNNER-UP Trophy	Pewter decanter on ebony base Donated by Milwaukee Kilties
FOURTH EVENT WINNER Trophy	Sterling silver Paul Revere bowl on two-tiered wood base. Donated by Skokie Thistles
FOURTH EVENT RUNNER-UP Trophy	Pewter goblet on walnut base Donated by Utica Glengarries

Initially the current Appleton Trophy was awarded to the rink that scored the highest aggregate score in the National Bonspiel each year.

This came about because all five of the founding clubs of the USWCA wanted to donate trophies. Since the bonspiel had only four events, the Board decided to award the fifth trophy to the rink that had the highest aggregate score. This was a system they had observed being used at Canadian 'spiels.

After a few years, however, the membership decided to abandon the system and instead award the trophy to the Runner-Up of the First Event, which is what is done currently. Now the other three events also have a trophy to be awarded to their Runners-Up as listed above.

Note: All award pins are designed to include: the event, replica of the event-trophy-sponsoring club's pin, year, and location of bonspiel. Gold pins to the winner in each event, silver pins to the runner-up.



Figure 16 - In 1983 the silver trophy and individual silver cups were awarded to the winners at the 36th USWCA National Bonselpiel. Nutmeg Curling Club. (l. to r.) Joanna Owens, Skip, Jan Leaton, Sally Barry, and Carol Lest from Darien, CT

FIRST EVENT USWCA NATIONAL BONSPIEL WINNERS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Winning Club/ Team</u>	<u>Bonselpiel Site</u>
1949	Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada Mrs. Doris Fraser, Skip Mrs. F. G. Prest	Wauwatosa C.C. Mrs. A. J. McIver Mrs. E. Shannon
1950	Indian Hill, Illinois Mrs. Herbert Kochs, Skip Mrs. John Dennehy	Chicago C.C. Mrs. Walter Straub Mrs. George Munns
1951	Wauwatosa, Wisconsin Mrs. Roy Hansen, Skip Mrs. Grant Rutenbeck	Wauwatosa C.C. Mrs. Larry Donahue Mrs. James Dowd
1952	Toronto Granites Mrs. Robert Amell, Skip Mrs. Malcom Moysey	Utica C.C. Mrs. John Muir Mrs. Douglas Easton
1953	Wauwatosa Granites Mrs. Erwin Nell, Skip Mrs. John Clauder	Wauwatosa C.C. Mrs. Fred Rathkamp Mrs. Tillman Bruett
1954	Wauwatosa Granites Mrs. Erwin Nell, Skip Mrs. Ben Dunlop	Madison C.C. Mrs. Tillman Bruett Mrs. Fred Rathkamp

First Event USWCA National Bonspiel Winners Con't

<u>Year</u>	<u>Winning Club/Team</u>	<u>Bonspiel Site</u>
1955	Wauwatosa Granites Mrs. Erwin Nell, Skip	Brookline C.C.
1956	Mrs. Don Dunlop	Mrs. Tillman Bruett Mrs. Fred Rathkamp
	Chicago Heathers Mrs. Ernest Wentcher, Skip Mrs. Fred Von Brauchitsch	Chicago C.C. Mrs. Robert Wilson Mrs. John Coates
1957	Chicago Heathers	Schenectady C.C.
	Mrs. Frank Pollen, Skip Mrs. Perry Pennington	Mrs. Darwin Curtiss Mrs. Fred Nichols
1958	Chicago Heathers	Chicago C.C.
	Mrs. Frank Pollen, Skip Mrs. Perry Pennington	Mrs. Darwin Curtiss Mrs. Fred Nichols
1959	Skokie Thistles	Wausau C.C.
	Mrs. David M. Wilson, Skip Mrs. L. Gifford Gardner	Mrs. John C. Butler Mrs. Henry A. Gardner, Jr.
1960	Indian Hill Squaws	Exmoor C.C.
	Mrs. Donald Jones, Skip Mrs. C. B. Jones	Mrs. Hughston McBain Mrs. Gilbert Schibner, Jr.
1961	The Country Club Brookline	Utica C.C.
	Mrs. C. Campbell Patterson, Skip Mrs. Albert S. H. Lincoln	Mrs. Harold S. Cutler Mrs. J. Reed Morss
1962	Wauwatosa Granites	St. Paul C.C.
	Mrs. Steuart Tray, Skip Mrs. Ernest Tranter	Mrs. Grant Putenbeck Mrs. Loyal Eddy
1963	Westchester Wicks	Portage C.C.
	Mrs. George Marsh, Skip Mrs. Robert Hackett	Mrs. James Walker Mrs. Ralph Behr
1964	Skokie Thistles	Brae Burn C.C.
	Mrs. John G. Butler, Skip Mrs. L. G. Gardner	Mrs. Albert Degen
1965	Indian Hills	Wauwatosa C.C.
	Mrs. John Bulger, Skip Mrs. Edmund Cummings, Jr.	Mrs. Landon Rogers Mrs. Edward McLean
1966	St. Paul Bonnie Spielers	Schenectady C.C.
	Mrs. Ronald Taylor, Skip Miss Marsha Huldstrand	Miss Marilyn Post Mrs. Leonard E. Grant
1967	Utica Glengarries, NY	Saddle & Cycle
	Mrs. Stanley Storms, Skip Mrs. Robert Hurd	Mrs. John Fitzgerald Mrs. William Searle

BEN

BULGER →

First Event Bonspiel Winners Con't

<u>Year</u>	<u>Winning Club/Team</u>	<u>Bonspiel Site</u>
1968	St. Paul Bonnie Spielers Mrs. Jerome Schwab, Skip Mrs. John Meisen	Duluth C.C. Mrs. Richard Arnold Mrs. James Jensen
1969	Pardeeville, WI Mrs. David Wolfe, Skip Mrs. Bruce Brant	Milwaukee C.C. Mrs. Alfred Miller Mrs. Michael Hughes
1970	Duluth Women's Curling Club Mrs. Charles Evinson, Skip Mrs. Ronald Welhaven	The Country Club/Brookline Mrs. William Claffey Mrs. William Ensign
1971	North Shore Lassies Mrs. Alfred Krumholz Jr., Skip Mrs. Henry W. Bolling	North Shore C.C. Mrs. Howard E. Anderson Mrs. William F. Ziska
1972	Wilmette Wil-Wicks Mrs. Gerry Duguld, Skip Mrs. Charles Heckler	Grand Forks C.C. Mrs. William Miller Mrs. Michael McCabe
1973	St. Paul Bonnie Spielers Miss Marsha Hulstrand, Skip Miss Linda Barneson	Appleton C.C. Mrs. Charles Tilden Mrs. Ken Koppy
1974	Virginia Curling Club Mrs. Newton G. Hahne, Skip Miss Rose Marie Sunquist	St. Andrew's & Ardsley C.C. Mrs. Eino Saranen Mrs. Robert Bolles
1975	Wilmette Curling club Betty Duguid, Skip Becky Ruby	Chicago & Indian Hill C.C. Judy McCabe Lelsie Ditamasso
1976	Exmoor Country Club Jackie Warner, Skip Cynthia Willis	Virginia, Mn C.C. Ann Brown Heddy Bennit
1977	Indian Hill Skipper Moore, Skip Marguerite Bard	Kettle Moraine C.C. Mary Urevig Low Reighard
1978	THE BLIZZARD FRIENDLY Cancelled	Wellesley & Weston C.C.
1979	Exmoor Curling club Ann Brown, Skip Jean Nickoley	Cleveland C.C. & Mayfield C.C. Cynthia Willis Ellen Bowman
1980	Langdon Curling Esther Flaten, Skip Karen Gellner	Arden Hills C.C. Zelpha Murie Edna Bata
1981	Exmoor Highlanders Cynthia Willis Jean Nickoley	Wausau C.C. Ann Brown Ellen Bowman

First Event Bonspiel Winners Con't

<u>Year</u>	<u>Winning Club/Team</u>	<u>Bonspiel Site</u>
1982	Exmoor Curling Club Cynthia Willis, Skip Jean Nickoley	Utica C.C. Ann Brown Ellen Bowman
1983	Arden Hills Joanne Schwab, Skip Margaret Otto	Cleveland C.C. & Mayfield C.C. Myrna MacKinnon Judy Jytyla
1984	Nutmeg Curling Club Joanna Owens, Skip Sally Barry	Duluth C.C. Jan Leaton Carol Lester
1985	Grafton Heathers, Grafton, ND Lavonne Berg, Skip Carol Burke	Madison C.C. Jessie Thompson Sonia Midgarden
1986	Virginia, MN Jeannette Vergman, Skip Rose Marie Lacher	The Country Club/Bookline. MA Dorothy Polski Ruth Saranen
1987	Grafton Heathers, Grafton, ND Lavonne Berg, Skip Carol Burke	North Shore/Chicago C.C. Dorothy Thoe Sonia Midgarden
1988	Bemidji, MN Elizabeth Johnson, Skip Ardie Meacham	Bemidji C.C. Shirley Froseth Sue Moody
1989	Kettle Moraine, WI Katie Carrera, Skip Barbara Retzlaf	Wauwatosa C.C. Anna Kaschinske Mary Pat Shandor
1990	North Shore, Glenview, IL Ann Neff, Skip Star Pfiffner	Schenectady, C.C. Roslyn Puford Kiki Wilson
1991	Madison Toories, WI Celia Stevenson, Skip Toni Swandby	Chicago C.C. Mary Jo O'Connor Marnee Hafeman
1992	Cavaliers, ND LaVonne Berg, Skip Joni Latozke	Duluth C.C. Pam Clarksean Kathy Wicker
1993	Hibbing, MN Susan Vessel, Skip Georgene Giomack	Kettle Moraine C.C. Gail Murray JoAnne Baratto
1994	St. Paul Bonnie Spielers, MN Myke Rachu, Skip Judy Olsen	Broomstones C.C. Jean McCann Jeanne McCann
1995	North Shore, Glenview, IL Star Pfiffner, Skip Kim Rustman	Cleveland Skating Club Ilse Guldbek Liz Leutwiler

First Event Bonspiel Winners Con't

<u>Year</u>	<u>Winning Club/Team</u>	<u>Bonspiel Site</u>
1996	St. Paul Bonnie Spielers, MN Myke Rachu, Skip Judy Olsen	St. Paul C.C.
	Jean McCann Jeanne McCann	
1997	Fairbanks C.C. Alaska Gayle Hazen, Skip Pam Thomson	Milwaukee Kilties
	Debbie Sather Lisa Curnow	

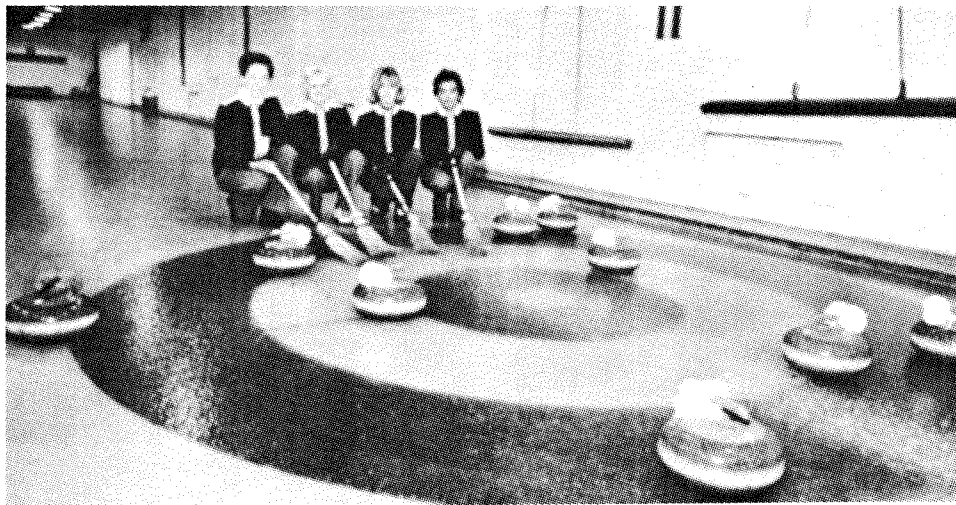


Figure 17 - The 25th Bonspiel was special when the defending champions, Wil-Wicks laid an eight end in Appleton. Pictured are Joanne Miller , Betty Duguid, Skip, Judy McCabe, Marcia Heckler.

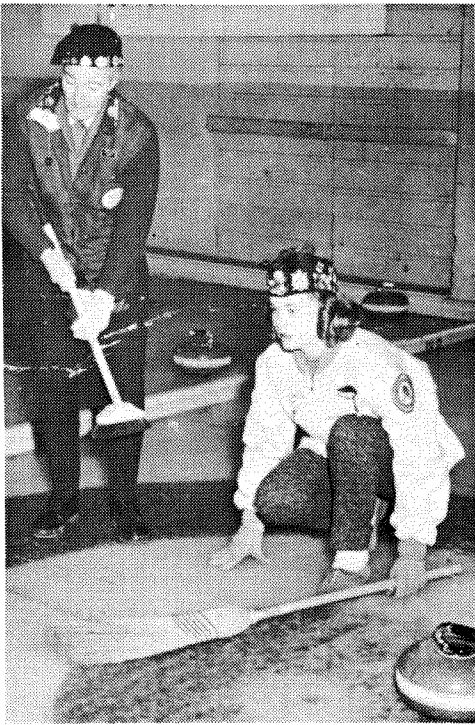


Figure 18- Jean Gow Glasgow
1958 Captain, Scot Tour waiting
to sweep an opponents stone
out of house.

Figure 19 - Nora Hart, Ayr, 1958
Scot Tour to USA holding broom
for her skip.



THE HISTORY OF
AMERICAN-SCOTTISH LADIES' TOURS

Tours to Scotland

1955 - United States of America and Canada: 8 ladies from each country
1966, 1976, 1986, 1996 - A tour team of 20 USWCA members

Tours to the United States

1958 A team of 16 ladies
1963 3 teams East, 3 teams West
1971, 1981, 1991 A tour team of 20 RCCC Ladies' Branch Members

These unforgettable exchange curling tours had their beginning when a joint team of 8 Americans and 8 Canadians visited Scotland for a month in 1955. The opportunity to reciprocate some of the famous Scottish hospitality came in 1958 when 16 Scottish ladies arrived to spend 1 week in Montreal, 1 week in Ontario and 2 weeks in the USA from Illinois to Massachusetts. It was at the Winchester Country Club that this first team to visit America had their Farewell Dinner, February 8, 1958.

The first tour that was held exclusively in the USA was participated in by 24 Scottish ladies when they returned in 1963. All 6 rinks flew into Chicago and curled against members of the areas' 8 clubs. From there the team was divided; 3 rinks curling in Wisconsin and Minnesota, 3 rinks traveled east to curl in New York and Massachusetts; all were reunited once again in the Boston area.

It was in 1966 that the first exclusively American Team toured Scotland when 20 USWCA members curled at all eight of the curling centers existing at that time. As a result of this successful tour, the USWCA became the first Associate Member of the Ladies' Branch in October, 1967.

At that time a definite schedule for these exchange visits of an alternate 5 year program of 3-week tours was agreed upon. In other

words, with Americans having been in Scotland in 1966, 20 Scottish ladies visited America in 1971, 20 American ladies visited Scotland in 1976, 1986 and 1996. In 1971, 1981, and 1991 we had the privilege, once again, to have 20 members of the Ladies' Branch visit the United States. This 5 year rotation plan has been successful for the last seven exchanges.

As Jean Gow, Captain of the 1958 Scottish Team, said in her speeches here:

"The primary purpose of these exchange tours is the fun of curling and the international goodwill engendered by the friendly matches." And as both Associations have always fully subscribed to this purpose, there has never been a trophy to compete for and it is hoped that that will always remain the case: to true curlers "winning" new friends is reward enough!

Shirley P. Elwell, Milwaukee Kilties



Figure 20 - The handshake of friendship, symbolizing the spirit at the American-Scottish Ladies Tours is remembered in Green Bay during the 1963 Scot Tour:(l. to r.) US-Pat Schroeder Scot-Molly Weston, US-Rita Houston, Scot-Margaret Motherwell, US-Mable Stiles, Scot-Ada Provan and US-Mary Beth Brebner.

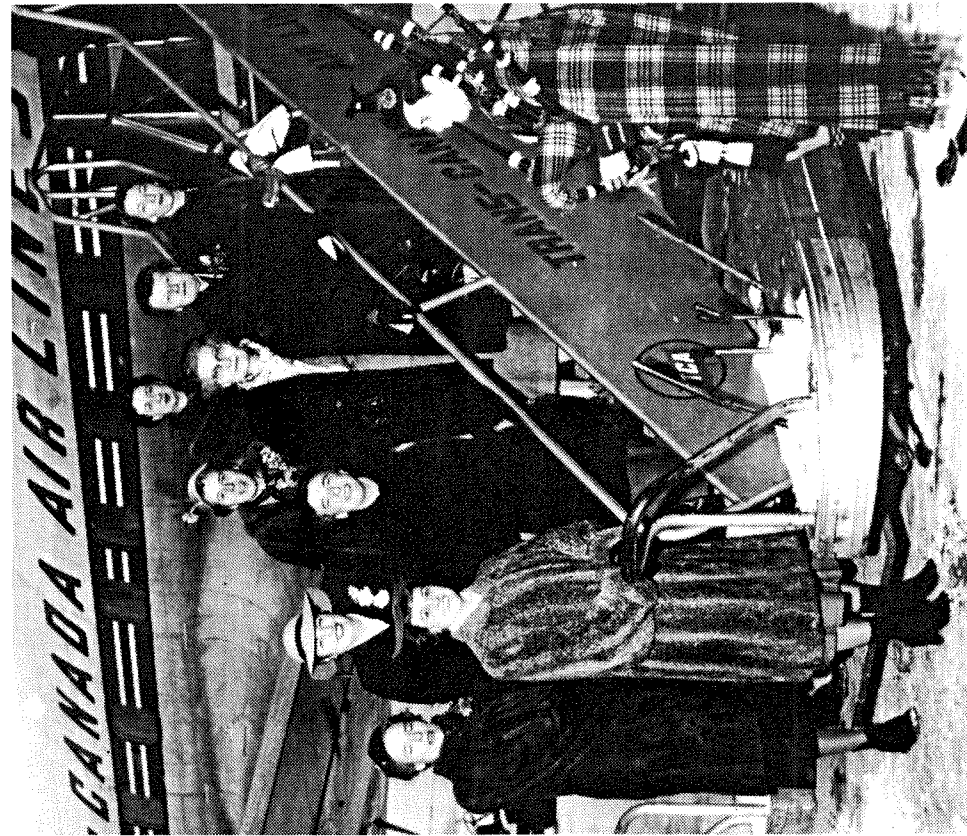


Figure 21 - 1955 Eight American Women boarding plane in Canada for tour of Scotland with eight Canadian women. Back (l. to r.) Miss Eleanor Garfield, Mrs. James Clarke, Mrs. Arthur Long, Mrs. George Erwin Jr, Front (l. to r.) Mrs. John Fitzgerald, Mrs. Horace Vaile, Mrs. Ross Bennett, Mrs. Julian Leonard, Mrs. Frank Pollen.

1955
CANADA AND U. S. A. TOUR SCOTLAND
16th January to 11 February

AMERICAN TEAM

Mrs. Ross Bennett, Portage Wisconsin
Mrs. James A. Clarke, Yonkers, New York
Mrs. George Erwin Jr, Palatine, Illinois
Miss Eleanor Garfield, Brookline, Mass.
Mrs. Julius Leonard, Brookline, Mass.
Mrs. Arthur (Tea) Long, Glenview, Illinois
Mrs. Frank Pollen, Glencoe, Illinois
Mrs. Horace Vaile, Highland Park, Illinois

CANADIAN TEAM

Mrs. F. A. Devitt, Babcaygeon, Ontario
Mrs. Andy Grant, Unionville, Ontario
Mrs. M.G. Squires, Hamilton, Ontario
Mrs. J. B. Walker, Gueph, Ontario
Mrs. H. H. Clark, Lennoxville, Quebec
Miss E. (Tiny) Gauthier, Buckingham, Quebec
Mrs. Pollack, Quebec, Quebec
Mrs. H. L. Liffiton, Grand Mere, Quebec

Visited: Ayr, Edinburgh, Dundee, Perth, Kirkcaldy, Falkirk, and Glasgow



Figure 22 - 1966 Scot Tour Members: 1st Row (l. to. r.) Hilda Doheer, Barbara Millan, Betty Whitmore, Hilda Fessenden, 2nd Row (l. to. r.) Shirley Elwell, Jo Mason, Alice Teegarden, Connie Marsh-Keith, Helen Oleson, Marge Teckmeyer, 3rd Row (l. to. r.) Libby Gage, Mitzi Davis, 4th Row (l. to. r.) Connie Howe, Mary Lou Rogers, Helen Dixon, Marcy Amacher, Elisabeth Childs, Lois Schuilenburg, Betty Corrigan, Ruth Bridge

1966

USA TOURS SCOTLAND
21st January - 9th February

Captain - Alice Teegarden

Vice-captain - Connie Marsh-Keith

Ruth Bridge *KCC*

Alice Teegarden *c.c.c.*

Connie Marsh-Keith *WOTMUG*

Helen Dixon *545*

Shirley Elwell *NICES*

Elisabeth Gage *EXUVER*

Marge Techmeyer *MAO*

Elisabeth Childs *WOTMUG*

Betty Corrigan

Betty Whitmore *1*

Barbara Millan

Connie Howe *WOTMUG*

WESTCHESTER WOTMUG

MaryLou Rogers *INDIAN HILL*

Marcy Amacher *Redford*

Helen Oleson *Birds*

Hilda Fessenden

Jo Mason *Appleton*

Hilda Doherr *NORTH SHARPS*

Lois Schulenburg *Appleton*

Mitzi Davis *C.C.C.*

Visited: Glasgow, Kirkcaldy, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Perth, Dundee, Aberdeen,
Ayr.

" A Wee Story "

(With thanks to the USWCA for making it possible.)

We went, we saw and we had the time of our lives. Three weeks is a short period, yet time is measureless. One cannot enumerate all the functions, sightseeing and curling which made up our Scottish Tour Team Program. Our experiences varied greatly. Each member has her own souvenirs and memories, but humbly, I will note a few of the highlights of our wonderful trip to Scotland.

It was an early morning and royal welcome we received at Prestwick Airport. First we heard the bagpipers, the Press appeared and then we met Janie Love, President Ladies' Branch, RCCC and the ladies of Glasgow and Ayr who had come to greet us. Gayly we all rode to Glasgow in our new bus complete with tartan seats and laprobes. This comfortable vehicle soon became our home-on-wheels and Tom "Pilot" Greenshields, its driver, our dear and patient friend. How proudly he wore our American curling pins on his lapels.

The first afternoon, we were received at the City Chambers by the Lord Provost of Glasgow and his Lady. He was wearing a large chain, the symbol of office about his neck. Tea was served. The surroundings were decorative and formal. We twenty stood there in our spic and span uniforms and I had the feeling of being a part of a movie set. Lord Provost is not a curler, but we gave him one of our official pins. In return we were given an informative and interesting guided tour of the City Chambers. The interior is truly surprising. This present City Hall was built in 1887 and stands like a fortress in the center of Glasgow.

Our first curling was at Crossmyloof Rink. How large it seemed. They have seventeen sheets and need more, they say. All was very strange, but we adapted quickly. In Scotland the ice houses are much warmer than ours and the ice much keener. They use removable hacks, or crampets if one wished. Games are played by time rather than by a definite number of ends. Mostly, the ladies curl in tartan skirts. There is a casualness about the games with spectators down on the ice behind the hacks frequently conversing with players. I admire the Scottish curlers' independence. Their stone deliveries vary greatly. Perhaps this is in line with their hope to keep curling on an amateur basis rather than have it transformed from an art to a science.

While in Glasgow, we had a memorable Sunday trip to Loch Lomond. En route, we stopped off for coffee at the Buchanan Country Club where golf was being played. Nearby on a hilltop, the Buchanan Castle stands, but sadly without its roof (taxes are less that way). When we arrived at Loch Lomond, it was misty. How beautiful the grays and blues of the water melded with the blues and greens of the hills and

mountains - like a lovely soft Scottish tweed. We had a hearty luncheon at the Buchanan Arms Hotel Drymen and returned to Glasgow for evening curling and a private home party.

On January 24th, in Kirkcaldy, where linoleum for much of Great Britain is made, we attended a Bobbie Burns' supper. There was the ceremony of Poosie Nansie presenting the haggis, "wi chappit tatties and bashed neeps," and whisky too! In reality, it was a superb banquet and the evening was completed with a program of Burns' songs and verses.

Edinburgh, located on the Firth of Forth, is the Scottish capital. It is a beautiful city dominated by historic Edinburgh Castle. We stayed in private homes, some in the city and others in the country. Everywhere we went in Scotland, we found its people so warm and charming. In Edinburgh, the team had its first and only half day off. Some went sightseeing while others went shopping on Princes Street. A big evening in Edinburgh was spent at the theater, where we saw a fine production of *Camelot*.

Onwards we went to Falkirk, an industrial and port town. Here again, we stayed in homes, single mostly. I appreciated being taken to Stirling when our rink had time off. It's an historic town with a castle on a high rock which overlooks the spot where Robert the Bruce defeated the English at Bannockburn.

Perth is the geographical center of Scotland. Whisky(Scotch) is distilled here. Too, the town is noted for its annual Aberdeen Angus and Shorthorn cattle sales. It's the home of the Black Watch Regiment and also the home of a fine ice rink. As in most every place we played, it was a joy to curl at Perth,

Dundee, on the estuary of the Tay, is the marmalade and jute city. Famous St. Andrews is nearby. During our three day stay here, we had an enjoyable Saturday evening at an informal dinner dance. It was gay. Some of the men were wearing kilts. We participated in many of their beautiful and energetic national dances. And like Cinderella, when the

betwixting hour arrived, we were bus bound to our Station Hotel, a tired and happy group.

Aberdeen was the most northern city we visited and the most Scottish. It sparkles. It is known as the Granite City. It has a fine University and a huge fish market. The Aberdeen committee, who met us at the "Welcome to Scotland" dinner in Glasgow, had assigned us to homes in which they felt we would best fit. It was a successful venture and we had great fun comparing notes.

Ayr, our last stop, is on the mild and warmer Southwest coast. With the Ayr ladies, we had a genial morning visiting Burns' cottage, getting a good view of Ailsa -Craig (island home of curling stone granite) and walking through Culzean Castle (Ike's Scottish home) and its attractive gardens. To our surprise, daffodils were up four inches-February 8th. We had very good curling at Ayr, our last of the Tour. We were touched by many "lasts" at Ayr - the last chance to hear the Curlers' Grace, the last dinner with heartfelt speeches and the last time to hold hands with our sister and brother curlers to sing "Auld Lang Syne".

From Prestwick we returned home, exhausted yet happy. We had made many new and wonderful friends across the Atlantic. Also we realized that as we played the game together, our team that had begun as a group of people had become a lasting and close bond of friendships and understanding.

Connie Marsh-Keith
Vice-Captain, 1966

US LADIES JOIN RCCC

"Great news from America. The United States Women's Curling Association decided at their Annual Meeting to become affiliated with the Royal Caledonia Curling club. This welcome move is the result of talks during the tour by the US ladies and Scotland in 1966 and further discussions with Ladies' officials and Bill Robertson Aikman during Bill's Captaincy on the Royal Club Tour in the USA in January, 1967."

*The Scottish Curler
November 1967 Vol. 14 No. 3*

Note: The USWCA was the first overseas Ladies organization to so affiliate.



Figure 23 - Shirley Elwell, ICF
Representative 1977 - 1981



Figure 24 - Mary Van Ess, ICF
Representative 1981 - 1991



Figure 25 - 1976 Scot Tour Members: 1st Row (l. to r.) Dona Mae Naylor, Mary Van Ess, Sue Watson, Shirley Massop, Jan Evingson; 2nd Row (l. to r.) Doris Odell, Jaci Walters, Winnie Bloomquist, Marguerite Bard, Betty Kriwanek, Leanne Peterson; 3rd Row (l. to r.) Jean Bulger, Bunny Porter, Rose Collins, Bev Sponaugle, Mary Helen Dryden, Sally Chandler, Jean Farmer, Minerva Stewart Millie Seidl.

1976

USA TOURS SCOTLAND
1st November to 22nd November

Captain - Jean Bulger, Vice Captain - Mary Van Ess, Secretary - Bunny Porter

Jean Bulger	Minerva Stewart	Mary Helen Dryden
Beverly Sponaugle	Bunny Porter	Doris Odell
Leanne Peterson	Rose Collins	Jeanne Farnar
Sue Watson	Millie Seidl	Shirley Massop

Sally Chandler	Jan Evingson
Dona Mae Naylor	Mary Van Ess
Winnie Bloomquist	Jaci Walters
Betty Kriwanek	Marguerite Bard

Courier - Marguerite Roberts

Visited: Glasgow, Ayr, Stranraer, Lockerbie, Kelso-Border, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Dundee, Perth, Aviemore, Inverness, Aberdeen, Kirkcaldy, Lanarkshire/Hamilton

THE SCOT TOUR REPORT OF 1976

The 1976 USWCA Scot Tour will long be remembered by twenty team members.

The Team represented nineteen clubs and stemmed from eight states (Illinois, Ohio, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin). The average age was forty-nine: we had fifty-six children (29 boys and 27 girls) and 32 grandchildren (19 girls and 17 boys).

We arrived in Prestwick on November first at 6:00 AM and departed Prestwick on November 22 about noon. In 21 days we curled 129 games; won 72, peeled (tied) 9 and lost 48. And, as the Scots score, we were up some 100 stones.

Our itinerary formed a figure eight of the country of Scotland. We curled in all fourteen ice rinks: Glasgow, Ayr, Stranraer, Lockerbie, Kelso, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Dundee, Perth, Inverness, Aviemore, Aberdeen, Kirkcaldy, and Hamilton. In six of these locations we stayed in private homes: Glasgow, Lockerbie, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen and Hamilton. In the other eight areas we stayed in hotels. We traveled by bus or private cars and were always accompanied by a courier or two. Mrs. Stewart Roberts (Marguerite), President of the Ladies' Branch of the Royal Club, was our permanent courier through out the entire tour. She was, indeed, "supa".

At each ice rink we were greeted by the officials of the area and one or more pipers. We were always piped onto the ice and it was especially festive when they arranged our brooms in a sunburst effect in our respective "houses". In Ayr and Inverness we were welcomed by the Provost which was a special honor for all of us.

The Scots were most generous and hospitable: our every wish was their command. We were entertained royally at a Welcoming Breakfast, 21 luncheons, 6 high teas or cocktail parties, 14 banquets, 4 buffet suppers

in beautiful homes , one evening party (a finger-buffet and dance), and 2 quiet evenings with our hostesses. Each occasion had a charm of its own. I remember one evening when they ushered us all in to the tune of Yankee Doodle Dandy. The entertainment was varied; we had everything from Royal Scottish Country Dancers and Gaelic songs, original skits and ballads about our team members - to a beauty contest put on by the Rugby Club of Stranraer and a talk about the Border Country by Baroness Elliot in Kelso. Two evenings will, no doubt be underlined in our memory books: one, The Curlers' Court in Kirkcaldy where we were made Curlers; and two, the Farewell Banquet in Ayr, where 170 Scots traveled from all parts of the country to bid us farewell.

On each occasion, we took our turn at entertaining the Scots. We had songs and skits written and organized by Rose Collins and a few talented team members. Some areas requested that I introduce each member of the team and ask them to give a few words about their home territory. The girls were great and got quite accustomed to public speaking. Godspiel seemed to be favorite with everyone. We did this in ten different areas and because of some "rare" talent among our members the performances were well-received by all.

Auld Lang Syne and Will Ye No' come Back Again will always bring back fond memories of a fabulous tour.

Jean Bulger, Captain 1976



Figure 26 - 1986 Scot Tour Members: Front (l. to. r.) Jan Biersach, Bobbe Tallant, Joanna Owens, Doris Eberlein, Renee Spencer, June McInnes; Back (l. to r.) LaVonne Berg, Carla Casper, Dorothy Thoe, Peggy Rotton, Mickey Vollmer, Priscilla Higgins, Diane Taylor-Firari, Ruth Saranen, Barbara Moses, Margaret Otto, Shirley Corcoran, Susan Dyer, Ann Brown, Diane Brown.

1986

USA TOURS - SCOTLAND
1st November -- 23rd November

Captain	Doris Eberlein	Vice Captain -	Joanna Owens
Secretary	Renee Spencer	Treasurer	Bobbe Tallant
Scorekeeper	June McInnes		

Doris Eberlein	Bobbe Tallant	Diane Brown
Joanna Owens	Renee Spencer	Ruth Saranen
Barbara Moses	Jan Biersach	Peggy Rotton
Micki Vollmer	Shirley Corcoran	Priscilla Higgins

Ann Brown	Lavonne Berg
June McInnes	Diane Taylor-Firari
Dorothy Thoe	Carla Casper
Margaret Otto	Susan Dyer

Couriers: Mary Tyre, Elizabeth Paterson-Brown

Visited: Stirling, Kirkcaldy, Atholl-Pittochry, Aviemore, Inverness, Kinross, Perth, Dundee, Letham Grange, Aberdeen, Kelso-The Borders, Edinburgh-Gogar Park, Murrayfield, Kinlochard & Aberfoyle (Forest Hills). Greenacres, Glasgow/Summit centre, Hamilton, Lockerbie, Ayr, Stranraer.

TOUR TEAM TOPS SCOTS

A fifteen point advantage went into the record book for the 1986 US Women's team that toured Scotland in November. After 22 days the final tally was Scotland 904 - United States 919 for 132 games.

For the 20 US curlers the visit was "a once in a lifetime experience" according to Doris Eberlein, the team captain. "Members came from eight states and now are part of the special few (1955, 1966, 1976, 1986) who have had the privilege of representing America on tour, curling in Scotland," she added.

Following are some excerpts from her report on the tour.

"On arrival in Prestwick we were greeted by the waving of a "Welcome" banner, the US and Scotland's St. Andrew's flags. Met by President Mary Tyre, President-elect Elizabeth Paterson-Brown, the Hon. Treasurer and International Curling Federation Representative, Isobel Forrest and their entourage of area coordinators and club presidents, we felt "at home" immediately."

A total of 1828 miles was traveled by motorcoach visiting cities and villages toward the Highlands, in the Central Lowlands and down to the Southern Uplands. Winding through the valleys of the Clyde, the Forth and the Tay Rivers, we saw the rolling moors, the rocky cliffs and the crushing seas highlighted by sunlight refracted into rainbows formed through the "Scottish Mist".

Throughout the three weeks the team was entertained at formal receptions and dinners with brother and sister curlers in Aviemore, Stirling, Stranraer, Aberdeen and Edinburgh. Special evenings took place in the Signet Library and the Royal College of Surgeons Hall. A Curlers's Court was attended in Kirkcaldy and a Medieval Evening at Lockerbie. At

Kinross, Dundee and Hamilton the team members were guests for buffet suppers in private homes.

Special curling personalities met during the trip included Alex F. Torrance, President of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, Robin Welsh, Honorary Member of the RCCC, Philip Dawson, president of the International Curling Federation and members of the teams which visited the US in 1958, 1963, 1971 and 1981. Private homes visited included Beryl Harley's Thomanean House; Sir John and Lady Clerk's Peniciuk House, Dorothy Pringle's Torwoodle House and John and Greta Aitken's home, Jerviswood House

Luncheon and a tour were enjoyed at Glenfarclas Distillery and receptions were held for the team by J & B and Glayva.

Most Scot teams that curled against us were composed of one member from a club so on each draw there were possibly 16 different Scot clubs curling against the 16 different American clubs. (One US team was off each draw.)

The team uniforms - red, white and blue - were easily recognized and applauded throughout the country.

The Scottish Curler, January 1987



Figure 27 - Scot Tour 1996 Team
Front (l. to r.) Anne Roberston, Judy Maier, Donna Purkey, Karen Leksell, Jill Owens Back (l. to r.) Gayle Hazen, RoseMarie Barton, Nancy Rosenbaum, Rosemary Morgan, Bridget Matzke, Lynette Munkberg, Beverly Schroeder, Edleann Biesbrock-Didham, Pat Cobb, Sigrid Festersen, Betty Minkel, Barbara Cornelsen, Lois Heiden, Linda Handlyside, Pat Jones.

1996
USA TOURS SCOTLAND
2nd November - 24th November

Captain	Donna Purkey	Vice Captain	Judy Maier
Secretary	Jill Owens	Treasurer	Karen Leksell
Scorekeeper	Betty Minkel		

RoseMarie Barton	Donna Purkey	Judy Maier
Beverly Schroeder	Lynette Munkberg	Betty Minkel
Barbara Cornelsen	Gayle Hazen	Anne Robertson
Bridget Matzke	Pat Jones	Edieann Biesbrock- Didham

Lois Heiden	Karen Leksell
Patricia Cobb	Linda Handyside
Sigrid Festersen	Jill Owens
Rosemary Morgan	Nancy Rosenbaum

Couriers: Alison McDermid, Kate Caithness

Visited: Ayr, Stranraer, Hamilton, Lockerbie, Edinburgh-Murrayfield and Gogar Park, Kelso - The Borders, Kinross, Atholl-Pitlochry, Perth, Inverness, Aberdeen, Forfar, Letham Grange, Kirkcaldy, Stirling, Galleon, Glasgow-Greenacres and Summit Centre.

1996
FINAL BANQUET, GLASGOW

"On behalf of the USWCA, our President, Judy Maier, and the 1996 Tour Members it gives me great pleasure to thank the Women of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club for our wonderful tour of Scotland.

We are twenty very privileged curlers and although we knew how lucky we were when chosen last March it is not even close to the pride we now have in representing our country and all the women curlers in the United States.

We enjoyed curling in as many rinks as we did, our games were always competitive but truly represented the fellowship and goodwill our tour is all about.

"It matters very little which side is up or down, 'tis the spirit of the game that counts, not the winning of the crown."

At our opening dinner one of our members (Bridget) met a woman in the restroom at Ayr who informed her that she was "waiting for the Queen". A hasty retreat back to the table was made and the story shared of this very strange lady she had just met. This was met with a great deal of laughter and the explanation of "No smoking allowed before the Toast to the Queen".

In Hamilton, our first pick-up after being with hostesses, two were very late for the bus (Barb and Bridget). Jim and Isobel Forrest kindly offered to deliver them to Murryfield and the bus left. The next morning they were on the bus before everyone else, dressed in pajamas with pillow and blankets, trying to make us believe they had spent the night.

At Inverness, Karen and Linda awoke to their hostess's alarm, showered, dressed and appeared for breakfast, only to discover no one else was even up. The bedroom clock had never been set back to standard time.

One team member (Lynette) has proven to be a keen curler and "the ideal wife", she is actually returning home with all the money she arrived with. Her bank at home had mistakenly given her Irish Punts to spend on her Scottish Tour.

One of our most unforgettable nights will always remain our Curlers Court. Thank you so much for allowing us to become "made curlers", and members of the Hercules Women's Curling Club. (The oldest in existence).

We gave Alison no problems until she left us loose in our first souvenir shop. After repeated attempts to corral us back on the bus, she decided desperate measures were needed, and turned up the next day with a whistle. Another clever trick was to tell us there was a much better shop just down the road.

It gives me great pleasure to present two very special people, Alison and Cate, with our Official Tour Gift in appreciation for all their love and attention.

On returning home it shall be hard to describe the competition, the camaraderie, gardens, farms, and castles. The very special floral arrangements, homemaking, the flags, the pipes, the crossing of our arms when we sing "and there's a hand my trusty friend" are all symbols of the most important dimension of our Tour. Your pins, gifts and welcomes will brighten our homes and lives for many a year.

In closing I believe this quotation accurately expresses our three weeks with you, "You never really leave a place you love. Part of it you take with you, leaving a part of yourself behind"."

Donna Purkey, Captain



Figure 28 - The team members who made the first official Scottish Ladies' Tour overseas - to Canada and USA in 1958.

1958

SCOTLAND TOURS -- CANADA AND USA

12th January - 26th January (Canada)

26th January - 9th February (USA)

Captain - Jean Gow

Vice Captain - Maimie Highet

Secretary - Muriel McPherson

Janie Love (Perth)

Pretsel Stirrat (Fife)

Irene Glen (Perth)

Sheila Alexander (Edinburgh)

Muriel McPherson (Dundee)

Mary Forrester (Kirkcaldy)

Mary Niven (Perth)

Jenny Nicol (Kirkcaldy)

Maimie Highet (Ayr)

Margaret Liddell (Glasgow)

Norah Hart (Ayr)

Mary Murray (Ayr)

Ann Niven (Perth)

Jean Gow (Glasgow)

Isabella Aitgen (Edinburgh)

Dorothy Gordon (Falkirk)

Visited:

Canada: Montreal, Ottawa, Rideau, Peterborough, Toronto,
Hamilton, Guelph, London.

USA: St. Paul, Wausau, Portage, Madison, Milwaukee, Chicago,
Utica, New York, Boston.

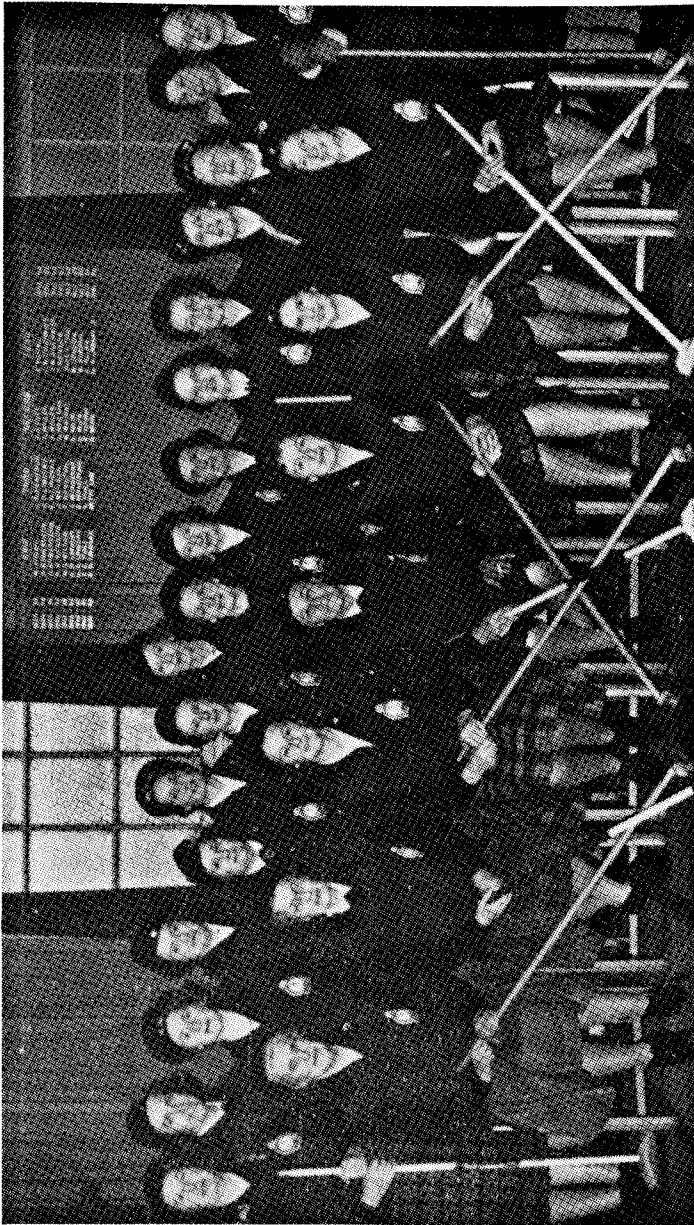


Figure 29 - 1963 Scot Tour

1963

SCOTLAND TOURS
20th January - 3rd February

Teams going to East:

Norah Hart (Captain) A
May Drummond
Kirsten Fairley
Margaret Watson

Connie Miller B
Isa Jackson
Catriona Blair
Pat McCosh

Dorothy White C
Mary Forrester
Sadie Jackson
Nan Walls

Teams going to West:

Muriel MacPherson (Captain) D
Pat Lyburn
Aileen Wallace
Peggy Cameron

Netta Littlejohn E
Janice Thomson
Isobel Haddow
Jessie Muirhead

Ada Provan E
Margare Motherwell
Molly Weston
Mary Dale

Visited:

All Teams	- Chicago
Team A and C	- Utica, Boston
Team B	- Rockton (Ill), Schenectady (NY), Boston
Team D and E	- Milwaukee, Madison, Boston
Team F	- Milwaukee, Green Bay, Boston



Figure 30 - 1971 Scot Tour

1971

SCOTLAND TOURS USA
14th January -- 4th February

Captain	Mardae Fulton (Glasgow)
Vice Captain	Betty Morris (Perth)
Secretary	Lily Kinnaird (Kirkcaldy)
Assistant Secretary	Esther Barclay (Aberdeen)

Margaret Anderson (Lanarkshire)	Betty Brydon (Border)
Charlotte Spowart (Falkirk)	Lily Kinnaird (Kirkcaldy)
Lena Cohen (Dundee)	Mary Stephen (Border)
Christine Hall (Falkirk)	Anne Miller (Ayr)

Elma Clark (Kirkcaldy)	Annie Craig (Glasgow)
Jean Shedden (Kirkcaldy)	Mardae Fulton (Glasgow)
Betty Morris (Perth)	Margaret Findlay (Glasgow)
May Miller (Perth)	Jean Pirie (Glasgow)

Eileen Murphy (Edinburgh)
Ella Reid (Aberdeen)
Esther Barclay (Aberdeen)
Marjorie Broatch (Lockerbie)

Couriers: Jean Bulger, Shirley Elwell, Connie Marsh-Keith

Visited: Chicago; Milwaukee, Appleton and Madison, Wisconsin;
Virginia, Minnesota, Utica, NY, Boston, Mass, and Connecticut

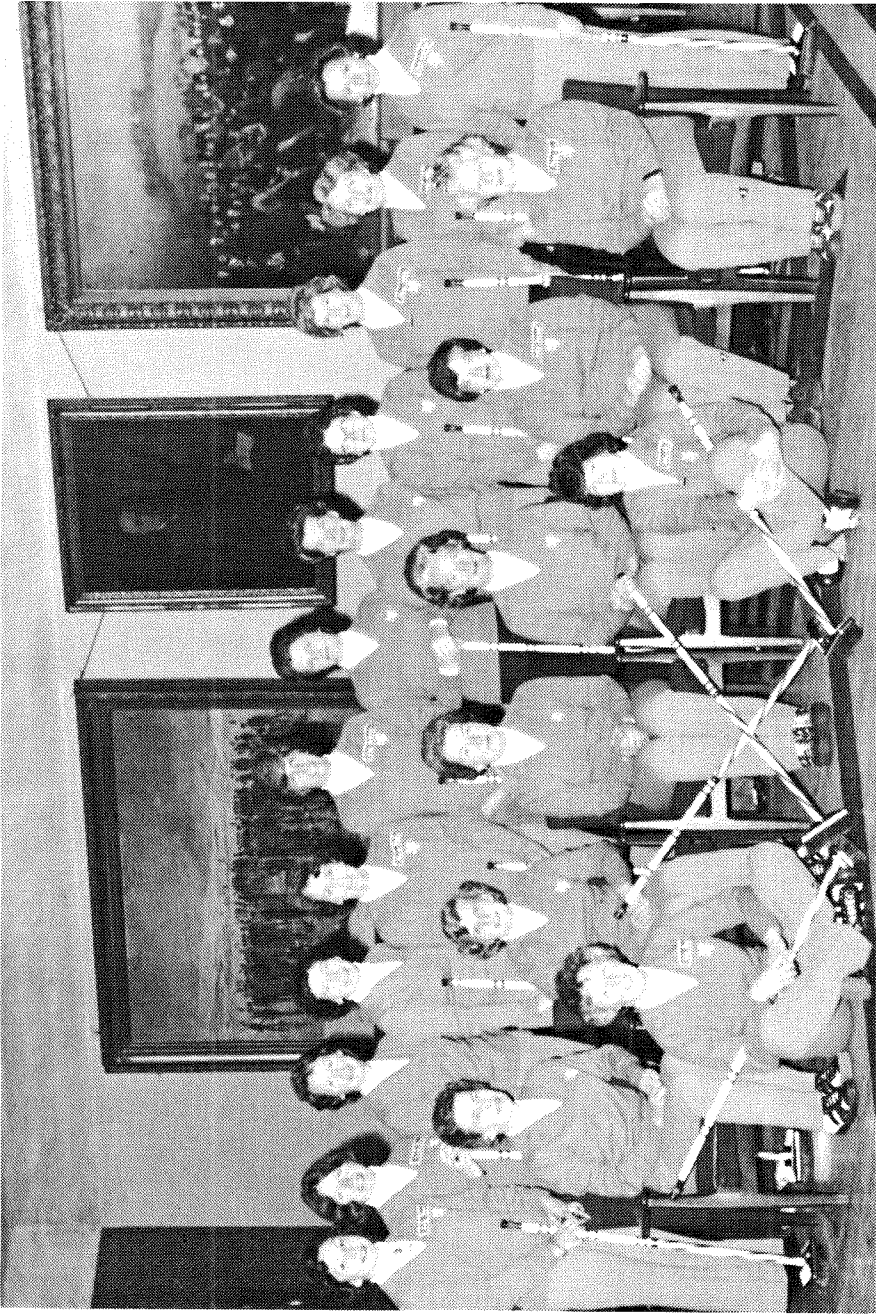


Figure 31 - The 1981 Scottish Ladies Team to tour America. Captain Betty Grierson is seated 3rd from left.

1981
SCOTLAND TOURS USA
10th January - 31st January

Captain Betty Grierson	Secretary - Elizabeth Paterson-Brown
Vice Captain Marie Ker	Ass't Secretary - Isobel Forrest
1	2
Betty Grierson (Stranraer)	Isobel Forrest (Lanarkshire)
Betty Donald (Aberdeen)	Sheena Hepburn (Kirkcaldy)
Marie Ker (Border)	Evelyn Wilson (Kirkcaldy)
Linda Fraser (Inversness)	Johan Steele (Lanarkshire)
3	4
Marion Inglis (Dundee)	Mary Tyre (Ayr)
Judy McKensie	Anita Duncan (Aviemore)
Ella Gallanders (Stirling)	Irene Campbell (Stirling)
Mary Watson (Glasgow)	Liz Smith (Lockerbie)
5	
Elizabeth Paterson-Brown (Murrayfield)	Isma Shaw (Perma)
Marjorie Kidd (Murrayfield)	Lorna Nicol (Perth)

Couriers: Marguerite Bard, Bunny Porter and Mary Van Ess

Visted: Illinois - Chicago C.C., Exmoor, North Shore
Wisconsin - Milwaukee, Wauwatosa, Portage: Minnesota-Mapleton, Arden Hills,
St. Paul, Mankato, Duluth: Ohio-Cleleland Skating Club, Mayfield C.C. :Pennsylvania -
Hershey: New York - St. Andrews, Ardsley: Connecut-Darien: Massachusettes - TCC,
Broomstones, Winchester: New Hampshire- Nashua

"Our long awaited and looked forward to tour of USA is over, and what a wonderful tour it was!

None of us who were privileged to take part will ever forget the warm and affectionate welcome awaiting us wherever we went.

We loved it all - Your homes, your Curling Clubs, and Country Clubs, but most of all the super people we met on and off the ice. We were especially impressed by the distances some of these curlers had travelled just to play one game against us.

The sad part for us was the fact that we had to move on - just when we were getting to know you. To everyone who helped to make our Tour such a happy and memorable experience, we say a very sincere " Thank you".

Betty Grierson, Team Captain

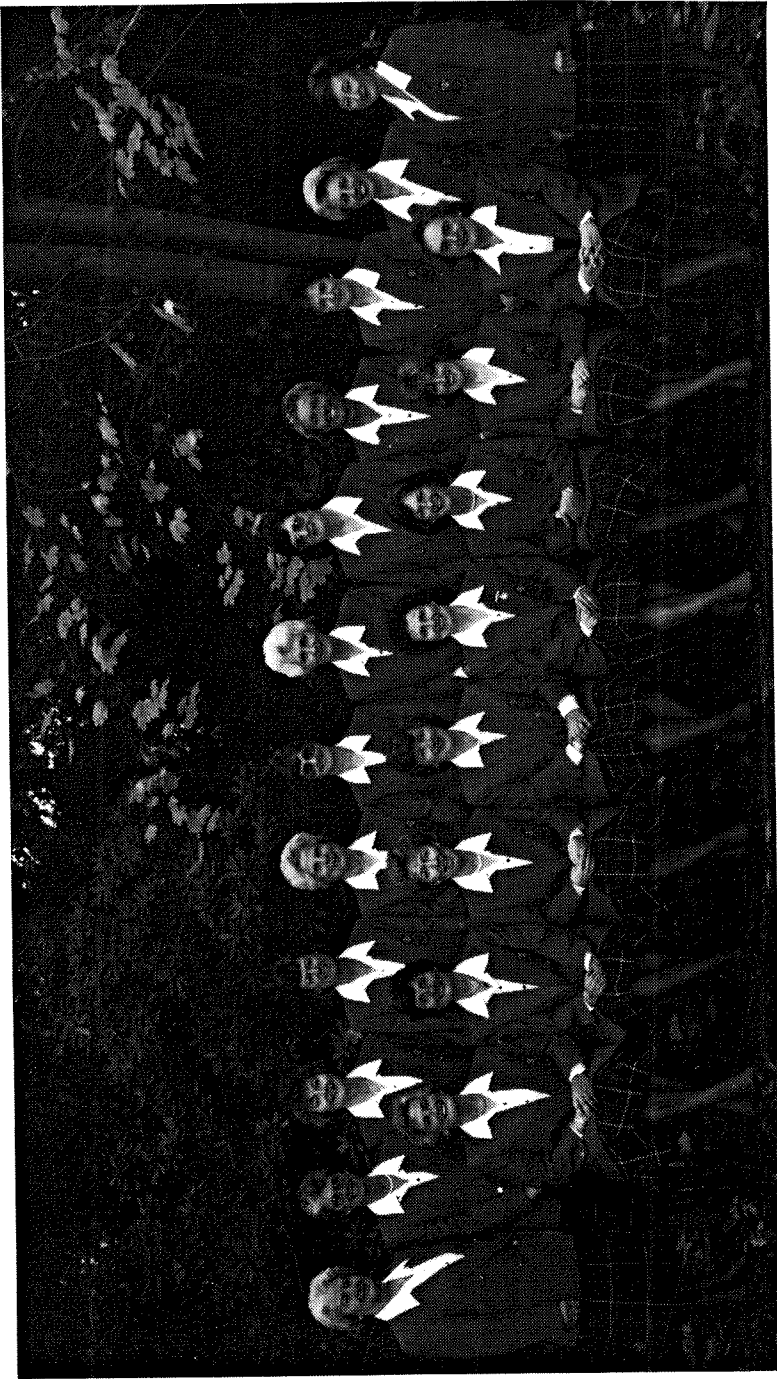


Figure 32 - The Scot Ladies who toured in America in 1991. Their captain, Marjory McLachlan, is seated 4th from left, front row.

1991

SCOTLAND TOURS USA
11th January -- 3rd February

Captain - Marjory McLachian Vice Captain - Isobel Torrence
Secretary/Treasurer - Kate Caithness

Isobel Torrence (Hamilton)	Irene Duncan (Aberdeen)
Jess Paterson (Stirling)	Marjory McLachian (Stirling)
Bett Coutts (Glasgow)	Anne Baird (Borders)
Jeanie Paterson (Lockerbie)	Eleanor Denholm (Murrayfield)
Lindore Aitken (Dundee)	Kate Caithness (Letham Grange)
Anne Parker (Aberdeen)	Mary Scobie (Stirling)
Katherine McAulay (Gogar Park)	Liz MacLaren (Inverness)
Marion McClung (Murrayfield)	Ann Turnbull (Kirkcaldy)

Jean Robertson (Kirkcaldy)
Ella Walker (Inverness)
Ena Drummond (Stranraer)
Libby Aitken (Gogar Park)

Visited:

Illinois - Wilmette, Skokie, Indian Hill, North Shore, Exmoor, Chicago C.C.
Wisconsin - Milwaukee, Wauwatosa, Portage, Wausau C.C.
Minnesota - St. Paul, Bemidji
Ohio - Mayfield, Cleveland
New York - Utica, Ardsley
Connecticut - Nutmeg C.C.
Massachusetts - Winchester, The Country Club, Broomstones
New Hampshire - Nashua



Figure 33 Opening Ceremonies - Portage, WI 1981 Scot Tour to USA
(l. to r.) Betty Grierson, Lorraine Hoppe, Mary Van Ess, Jean Wasson

THE ALL -AMERICAN EVENT

The All-American Event was held across the country for the first time during the 1965-66 season with 48 clubs participating and 1808 competing curlers. It is a USWCA sponsored, intra-club event in which every member club of the national organization is invited to participate. National rules permit each club to set up the All-American event according to the number of rinks entered from each local group.

While it is basically an "Open" Event, rinks are limited to one club-rated skip per team.

The USWCA furnishes to each participating club one set of four (4) gold pins. Since 1992 a second set has been given when needed for an additional evening event within a club. The All-American award pins were designed by Shirley Elwell, Milwaukee Kiltie and Erffmeyer Jewelers.

The roster of winning teams from each club is published annually in the US Curling News spring issue for each previous curling season.

Watch out, World!



The U.S. Women's Curling Association
**is ready to enter International
Competition for the first time.**

***Our first step... U.S. WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP
FEBRUARY 21-24, 1977
WILMETTE, ILLINOIS***

***Your first step... Financial support to make sure
our baby will grow into a
strong international contender.***

Be an enthusiastic relative!

**GRANDPARENTS..... \$100.-
GODPARENTS..... \$ 50.-
AUNTS and UNCLES..... \$ 25.-
COUSINS..... \$ 10.- or under**

**Checks Payable to "U.S. Women's Championship - U.S.W.C.A."
Send to your club Rep.: _____**

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES WOMEN'S CURLING ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP

The growth of curling in the United States and the publicity surrounding competition at both the national and international level, made it apparent that a very important element was missing in Women's curling in the U.S. namely, championship play at the national level. A survey, completed in 1975, made it clear that a large portion of USWCA members felt that the interests of the "competitive" curlers were not being met.

In the fall of 1975, a committee formed by the USWCA Board of Directors, was directed to investigate if such an undertaking was possible. The committee presented its recommendations to the February Board of Directors meeting in Virginia, Minn., in 1976 and again at the fall Board meeting in Wisconsin. A resolution that the USWCA must provide impetus for championship play was passed overwhelmingly while recognizing that securing adequate patron support was an imperative.

The first championship games took place five months later (February 1977) at the Curtis Curling Center, Wilmette, Illinois. It consisted of 8 teams, (out of 65 that had played down, beginning at the club level) representing Alaska, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, North Dakota, Washington and Wisconsin. The first USWCA national champion was a New York rink skipped by Margaret Smith from Westchester Wicks with Cynthia Smith, Jackie Grant and Eve Switzer.

In 1978 Duluth, MN, hosted the second women's championship at the new Pioneer Hall. Eight rinks again competed in round-robin play (69 played down). The new champion was Wisconsin (Wausau) represented by Sandy Robarge, skip, Elaine Collins, Jo Shannon and Virginia Morrison.



Figure 35 - 1977 Winners of First USWCA National Championship:
Cynthia Smith, Margaret Smith (Skip), Jackie Grant and Eve Switzer.

The 1979 championship games were held in Massachusetts at the Winchester Curling Club. The new champion, from Seattle, Washington, was skipped by Nancy Langley, with Dolores Wallace, Leslie Frosch and Nancy Pearson, who won in a play-off that went to the last rock. The Ceil Stevenson Rink from Madison, Wisconsin, was runner-up. The naming of a second place team (as a back-up) was necessary for the first time due to the fact that the first Women's World was to be held in Perth, Scotland, in March. The World proved to be an exciting and inspiring time for women curlers everywhere to realize that we had moved so quickly to world level competition.

The 1980 championship games took place in Seattle, Washington, at the Granite Curling Club. Once again a Seattle rink, consisting of Sharon Kozai, skip, Joan Fish, Betty Kozai and Aija Edwards won the championship and traveled to Perth, Scotland, for the second Women's

World. The runner-up was a Hallock, Minnesota, rink skipped by Eileen Swanson.

Kettle Moraine Curling Club in Wisconsin was the site of the 1981 championship games. After completion of round-robin play, four teams were tied for first place. They were Alaska, Illinois, North Dakota and Washington. After two play-off games, Seattle, Washington, emerged as victors over the LaVonne Berg Rink of Grafton, N. Dakota. The winning rink consisting of Nancy Langley, Skip, Carol Dahl, Leslie Frosch and Nancy Pearson Wallace went on to the World competition in Perth, Scotland.

In 1982, Bowling Green, Ohio, hosted the Championship. A rink from Oak Park, Illinois, skipped by Ruth Schwenker with Stephanie Flynn, Donna Purkey and Kiki Wilson captured the title and traveled to Geneva, Switzerland, for World competition. North Dakota's LaVonne Berg Rink was runner-up for the second straight year.

The 1983 Championship was held in Grafton, North Dakota. A Washington team representing the Granite Curling Club, won the title. The skip was Nancy Langley, with Dolores Campbell as vice, Nancy Wallace as second and Leslie Frosch, lead. The runner-up was the team representing Minnesota from the St. Paul Curling Club, skipped by Geraldine Tilden. The Langley team competed in the Ladies World in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada.



Figure 36 - 1983 - Social gathering during 1983 Championship at Grafton, N.D.
(l.to r.) Mary Shaw, Jessie Thompson, Mary Van Ess, Ann Brown Jeanne Farner,
Winnie Bloomquist, Ginia Lewis

1984 was at Wauwatosa and won by Duluth; Amy Hatten, Terry Leksell, Karen Leksell and Kelly Sieger. The World went back to Perth and the Royal Bank of Scotland sponsored it.

1985 was in Hershey, PA and won by Fairbanks, AK. Bev Birklid, Peggy Martin, Jerry Evans and Karina Sharp, who curled in the Ladies World in Jonkoping, Sweden.

1986 was at the Chicago Curling club and won by St. Paul: Gerri Tilden, Linda Barneson, Barb Polski, and Barb Gutzmer. This was a great event and the team went on to Kelowna, BC. Five 1987 USWCA committee members attended to learn what had to be done next year for the World to be hosted by the United States.

In 1987 it was held in St. Paul and won by Seattle: Sharon Good, Joan Fish, Beth Bronger-Jones and Aija Edwards. This was the first year that the USCA sanctioned the championship. But the USWCA still did all

the work to stage this event. This was the team that went to the Lake Forest World Championships. It was the first time the U.S. had hosted a Women's World Championship and was held on the campus of Lake Forest College, which is located thirty miles north of Chicago. All teams were housed at the Deerpath Inn, which was about a mile from the arena.

1988 was held in Darien, CT and was the first one for which the budget had to be submitted to the USCA and that they really had much to do with it. It was won by Seattle; Nancy Langley, Nancy Pearson Wallace, Leslie Frosch and Mary Hobson. The women went on to Glasgow for the World.

1989 was in Detroit, MI and was the first time the Men's and Women's US Championships were combined. Won by Rolla, ND, Jan Lagasse, Janie Kakela, Cooky Bertsch and Eileen Mickelson. They went on to Milwaukee to the first combined Men's & Women's World Championships. It also was the last involvement of the USWCA with our National Women's Curling Championship which had become a reality and had grown concurrently internationally. The National Trophy has been the same since the beginning.

Ann Brown - Exmoor Highlander



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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Congressional Record

U.S. HOSTS THE WORLD LADIES CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1987

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, March 22 will be a historic day in the annals of American and international sports. On that day, America will for the first time host the World Ladies Curling Championships sponsored by the Glayva Corp., and I'm proud to say that this world class event will take place in the 10th district of Illinois, at the Lake Forest Ice Arena.

Curling has not received widespread attention in the United States, although the game in fact was first played nearly 300 years ago in Scotland and the Netherlands. The championship matches over the years have drawn international attention as well as worldwide spectators, including many foreign dignitaries and royalty.

The first championship was held in Perth, Scotland, in 1979. Since then, Switzerland, Canada, Sweden, and Denmark have held the world title. This year, teams, or rinks, representing 10 countries will take to the ice in Lake Forest to compete for the title of world champion. The United States hopes are pinned on Sharon Good's rink from Seattle, which recently won the national championships held in St. Paul.

Curling enthusiasts abound in Chicago's North Shore communities, and the game is played regularly in Highland Park, Glencoe, Winnetka, Northbrook, Glenview and other cities. They are all eagerly anticipating the championships, which run from March 22-28.

Jean Smith of Northbrook deserves special recognition for her work as head of the host organizing committee. She has helped coordinate the innumerable details in scheduling the many European and out-of-state visitors.

I want to wish the American team luck in this first-ever championship. In the jargon of curling, may the best rink win!

Figure 37 - Page from Congressional Record

HISTORY OF THE LADIES WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

The possibility of a Ladies World Championship was first discussed at an informal meeting called by Frances Brodie of Scotland during the men's Silver Broom at Duluth, MN in 1976. Among those asked to attend were those ladies from around the world that she had met through tours to and from Scotland. It was generally agreed among us all that it was a good idea and we were all to go home and discuss it with our organizations. I immediately informed Diana Taylor-Firari upon my return and we agreed to have the subject on the agenda for our Fall meeting.

That same Fall Diane received a phone call from a Canadian gentleman. He wanted the USWCA to be represented at a meeting being called by Air Canada to discuss the possibility of their sponsoring a world championship event for the women. Diane gave him my name and I attended the meeting which was held in Vancouver, B.C.. Those countries who sent representatives were Scotland, Sweden, U.S.A. and Canada.

Since no firm commitment was made by Air Canada, we came away a little disappointed. However, at this point I decided maybe the way to go was for our national women's organizations to apply for membership in the International Curling Federation on our own. This was discussed and approved at our February 1977 USWCA meeting. It was at the Spring 1977 ICF meeting in Karlstad, Sweden to which the lady representatives, among others, of Scotland, Sweden, Canada and the U.S.A. were invited to attend, that gave me the opportunity to present the USWCA's application for formal membership on the ICF Committee.

This so shocked the men that we would even apply, although we satisfied every requirement as listed in their constitution and by-laws, they didn't want to vote on it and tabled it until the next day. This would give them time to think of an "excuse " for saying "no"! The following day their answer of "No" came as no surprise and the reason they gave was that they only recognized one national curling association per country and, except for the U.S.A. and Canada, in all other curling countries at this time their ladies curling associations were simply part of their men's national organizations!

We women were all disappointed, of course, and went down to the restaurant in the hotel to talk over a cup of coffee what we could do

next. It was decided to pursue the route of starting a Ladies' World Championship on our own and Frances Brodie said she had some ideas about whom to approach in Scotland that might help. She said she would keep us in touch, as well as the other countries who had some form of nationally organized curling for women. That Fall she asked us all to come to the Silver Broom in Winnipeg in 1978 for a meeting. Other countries she contacted, besides the original four of us that met in Duluth and Vancouver, were Switzerland, Norway and Germany.

At the meeting in Winnipeg we all decided to proceed on our own with plans to have a Ladies World Championship in 1979 in spite of the lack of assistance and official backing from the ICF. Frances said she was sure we could hold the first one in Scotland in March and she had some thoughts on a possible sponsor--both of which became realities and announced curling-world-wide in June of 1978. In view of our resultant success, the ICF men said it was now officially O.K. for us to hold a 1980 Ladies' World Championship and it would be called the First LWC. To us it was to be the Second LWC and we ignored their directive. We have continued our way of numerically counting the event every since.

Shirley Elwell - Milwaukee Kilties



Figure 38 - March 1978 -Winnipeg, Canada -First official Ladies Committee of the ICF (l.to r.)
Frances Brodie, Scotland; Erika Kornmuller, Germany; Bojan Zachrieson, Sweden; Dorothy
New, Canada; Shirley Elwell, USA;Lilianne Gilroy, Switzerland; Bente Hoel, Norway

In June of 1978 it was announced that the first ever World Ladies Curling Championship would be held in Perth, Scotland, and would be sponsored by the Royal Bank of Scotland in March 1979. It was especially appropriate that the first championship be held in Scotland, the home of curling where bonspiels had been held for over 130 years.

The following two years the championship returned to Perth with the Royal Bank continuing the sponsorship.

In 1982 the Ladies World moved to Geneva, Switzerland. It was sponsored by the Swiss Curling Association.

1983 saw the event cross the ocean for the first time where Pioneer Life/Pioneer Trust sponsored the championship in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada. Switzerland became the first country to win the event a second time.

In 1984 the championship returned to Perth with the Royal Bank taking on the sponsorship once more and in 1985 to Jonkoping, Sweden where H & M Clothing Manufacturers sponsored the event.

The Ladies World returned to Canada in 1986 (Kelowna), with the Pioneer Life Assurance company sponsoring the event for the second time.

In 1987, for the first time, the World Ladies Curling Championship was held in the United States of America. The competition took place in an ice arena located on the beautiful wooded campus of Lake Forest College, Illinois. The Glayva Company, Loanhead, Edinburgh, Scotland was a welcomed sponsor. Associate Sponsors included: Allstate Insurance Companies, First National Bank of Lake Forest and Touche Ross & Company.

The last year the Ladies World was played under the auspices of the Ladies Committee was in Glasgow, Scotland, 1988, the country of its origin.

Since 1989 the championship has been held concurrently with the Men's World Championship under the direction of the World Curling Federation. The word Ladies was changed to Women's. Milwaukee, WI was the site of the first combined event which proved to be very successful.



Figure 39 - 1987 USA Team to the first World Ladies Curling Championship to be held in America from Seattle (l. to r.) Aija Edwards, Beth Bronger-Jones, Joan Fish and Skip Sharon Good



HISTORY OF USWCA SENIOR WOMEN'S BONSPIEL

On October 8, 1981, the fall board meeting at the Ramada Inn, Woburn, Mass., was called to order by Mrs. Earl Spencer, Jr., President. At this meeting an idea was realized when President Renee Spencer asked Estelle Wolff to investigate the possibility of holding a Senior Women's Bonspiel.

Estelle Wolff started her investigation by presenting the idea to her own curling club, the Wausau Highlanders. It was enthusiastically received and they voted to endorse such a bonspiel with a minimum age of 55 years for participants.

Estelle's second step was to do a survey of all 87 clubs listed in the 1980-81 Roster. She mailed double postcards to all of the representatives asking that they mail back with a yes or no answer. The results of the survey were positive.

At the February 8, 1982 meeting held in Utica, NY, the Senior Women's Bonspiel Committee report was given by Estelle Wolff, Wisconsin

Area, Chairman. A motion was made by Peggy Jacobs and seconded by Jean Bulger that we have a 1983 USWCA Senior Women's Bonspiel with a minimum age of 55.

At the October 8, 1982, meeting held at Beachwood, Ohio, the Committee; Chairman - Estelle Wolff, East - Loretta Redding, Central - Rose Collins, Wisconsin - Maxine Gilboy, West - Mary Helen Dryden gave their report. The Board approved the use of the Teakettle given by Mrs. Darwin Curtis to the USWCA for the official trophy. The Board approved the request to have a base made for the teakettle with plates for winners' names. The cost of the base would be \$50.00, plus the artist's sketches of \$25.00



Figure 40 - These women were part of committee responsible for the first USWCA Senior Ladies Bonspiel held at the Chicago C. C., January 10-11, 1983; Annabelle Roche, Rose Collins and Ginnie Keith.

It was approved that the first USWCA Senior Women's Bonspiel would be held Jan. 10, 11, 1983, at the Chicago Curling Club. It will be a 16 rink spiel with all games 8 ends. There will be four rinks from each area, with no playdowns, entries accepted on a first-come basis, entry fee of

\$120.00, the good faith fee to be \$20.00. Composite rinks will be allowed within an area. The Heathers of Chicago Curling Club had their committee at work for this new venture: Chairmen being Annabelle Roche, co-chairmen Ginny Keith and Rose Collins.

The only disappointment was the pins. A friend of the Chicago Heathers offered to pay for newly designed participation pins and award pins to be designed by Erffmeyer Co. of Milwaukee.

A complete list of sponsors and trophies for each event in the Senior Bonspiel is entered separately at the end of this review.

On October 6, 1983, a motion was made to make a constitutional change in the Committee, changing it from an Ad Hoc Committee to a Standing Committee, and also to have the Bonspiel continue. Motion was carried. A sketch showing the new awards pin and participation pin design was approved. They were awarded retroactively, for 1983 and ever since.

At the fall meeting, 1984, held in Duluth, MN, the SBC recommended to:

1. Enlarge the bonspiel to 24 teams
2. Accept good faith entries until at least 4 weeks following mailing of the letters of intent. Then put all the entries from each area into a hat and pull for position. The first 4 from each area would receive entry to the bonspiel and the remaining would be standby teams.

It was felt that this would give everyone an equal chance and the decision would not be dependent on the mail.

A discussion followed and a motion was made that there should be no fewer than 16 teams, but the bonspiel may be enlarged if the Board so decides.

A motion was made and carried that all of the Rules governing the Rules of the National Bonspiel also cover the Senior Bonspiel.

At the October 14, 1984 meeting there was a unanimous decision to seed Milwaukee to the next Bonspiel as they did not have a team in the bonspiel when it was held in Milwaukee. After this, the only seed club would be the hostess club. In the future, the bonspiel will follow geographic rotation, West, Wisconsin, East and Central.

At the 2nd banquet in Milwaukee, two long-time members were honored- Mary Tobin, National President 1953-54, still curling at 84; and Alice Fuldner, National Treasurer 1965-66, curling in her 43rd year. When asked to say a few words, Mary remarked, "Some people just don't know when to quit."



Figure 41 - 1985 Winner Senior Bonspiel. June Krumholz skip, Priscilla Bolling, Jan Bruce, Betty Wende. Their collection of pins include; 1st Event 1985, 1990, Runner-up 1992; 2nd Event - 1987; 3rd Event 1986; 4th Event 1984, Runner-up 1989, 1991.

The meeting of the USWCA held February 13, 1985 voted that a refund of the Good Faith fee be given if a team had not been invited to participate. The clubs who had offered to sponsor trophies were contacted.

The 7th Annual Senior Women's Bonspiel was held February 8-11, 1989, hosted by the Northern Lights Ladies of the Anchorage Curling Club. The first National event to be hosted in Alaska by a USWCA club. The first rock was delivered and swept by the past presidents of the USWCA, Winnie Bloomquist, Ann Winslow and Doris Eberlein.

The USWCA October 7, 1988 meeting moved that composite teams from a geographical area would have the same status in the draw as a team whose personnel are from a single club. The 1989 Bonspiel was won by a composite team from the West Area.

A special event took place during the 8th bonspiel held in Wausau, Wisconsin. On January 16, 1990, a reception and formal dedication of the "Bonspiel Room" featuring the Elwell Curling collection in the Marathon County Historical Museum was held.

The 15th Annual Senior Women's Bonspiel was held in Mapleton, Minnesota, January 16-19, 1997. A highlight was sharing ice time with the Scottish Men's 1997 tour of the US. On Saturday, January 18th, the ladies had the morning off and watched the Scots curl, then shared a good time in fellowship and song.

Edith Workman
As-kar-ben Women's Curling Club

USWCA SENIOR BONSPIEL

TROPHIES - DONOR

FIRST EVENT WINNER Trophy	Silver Tea Kettle	Donated by Mrs Dar Curtis (1979)
FIRST EVENT RUNNER-UP Trophy	Silver Brandy Snifter	Donated by Skokie Thistles Glencoe, Illinois (1985)
SECOND EVENT WINNER Trophy	Silver Quaich Bowl	Donated by Chicago Heathers Northbrook, Illinois (1985)
SECOND EVENT RUNNER-UP Trophy	Gold Mining Pan	Donated by Northern Lights Ladies . Anchorage, Alaska (1989)
THIRD EVENT Trophy	Silver Ice Bucket	Donated by Arden Hills Lassies Saint Paul, Minnesota (1985)
THIRD EVENT RUNNER-UP Trophy	Plaque with Gavel	Donated by USWCA Past Presidents (1991)
FOURTH EVENT Trophy	Wooden Curling Stone	Donated by Wausau Highlanders Wausau, Wisconsin (1985)
FOURTH EVENT RUNNER-UP Trophy	Silver Teapot	Donated by Ardwick's Ardsley-on-Hudson, New York (1991)

WINNER & RUNNER-UP AWARD PINS

First Event - routed in blue	Third Event - routed in white
Second Event - routed in red	Fourth Event - routed in green

PARTICIPATION PIN COLOR

1983	Royal Blue	1990	Light Blue	1997	Mauve
1984	Red	1991	Apple Green	1998	Teal
1985	Light Yellow	1992	Burgandy	1999	Red
1986	Forest Green	1993	Lilac	2000	Purple
1987	White	1994	Black	2001	Pantone Green
1988	Choc Brown	1995	Pumpkin Orange	2002	Canary Yellow
1989	Corn Yellow	1996	Medium Blue	2003	Brilliant Blue

Note: These are the only USWCA award pins made with both gold & silver metals on one pin.

USWCA SENIOR BONSPIEL

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>FIRST EVENT WINNER</u>		<u>HOST CLUB/ HOST CITY</u>
1983	Virginia Women's C.C. Virginia, Mn Carmella Luccarelli, Skip Bertha Hart (Hibbing)	Marcella Tammenen Helen Boles	Heathers Curling Club Chicago, Illinois
1984	Northern Lights Curling Club Anchorage, Alaska Nona Johnson, Skip Betty Clure	Sue Stefano Betty Calhoon	Milwaukee Kilties Milwaukee, Wisconsin
1985	North Shore Curling Club Glenview, Illinois June Krumholz, Skip Priscilla Bolling	Jane Bruce Betty Wende	Virginia Women's C.C. Virginia, Minnesota
1986	Kettle Moraine C. C. Hartland, Wisconsin Jan Biersach, Skip Val Wessels	Betty Champion Marie Leupold	Kettle Moraine C. C. Hartland, Wisconsin
1987	Madison Toories Madison, Wisconsin Ardell Dahl, Skip Betty Buchanan	Fay O'Brien Lois Poley	Winchester Curling Club Winchester, MA
1988	Mayfield Country Club South Euclid, Ohio Jeanne Farner, Skip June McInnes	Mary Bruner Zola Smith	Indian Hill/Skokie C.C. Chicago, Illinois
1989	Grafton Heathers Grafton, N.D. Dorothy Thoe, Skip Isobel Rapaich (Duluth)	Marion Frosch (Seattle) Edna Bata (Langdon)	Northern Lights Ladies Anchorage, Alaska
1990	North Shore Curling Club Glenview, Illinois June Krumholz, Skip Pat Pfiffner	Jan Bruce Betty Wende	Wausau Highlanders Wausau, Wisconsin
1991	Nashua Country Club Nashua, New Hampshire Nancy Wilbur, Skip Elizabeth Strong	Kate MacLaughlin Barbara Cresswell	Ardwicks New York, Ny
1992	Exmoor Highlanders Highland Park, Illinois Ann Brown, Skip Boots Clark	Ginny Schulte (Chicago Heathers) Dottie Newt	Mayfield Curling Club South Euclid, Ohio
1993	Virginia Curling Club Virginia, Minnesota Ruth Saranen, Skip Shirley Coe	Rose Marie Lacher Irene Fisher	Arden Hills Cairn Lassie Saint Paul, Minnesota

USWCA SENIOR BONSPIEL CON'T

YEAR	FIRST EVENT WINNER	HOST CLUB/HOST CITY
1994	Wausau Highlanders Wausau, Wisconsin Bunny Melander, Skip Marcy Weinkauf	Green Bay Bonnies Green Bay, Wisconsin
1995	Duluth Women's Curling Club Duluth, Minnesota Bev Anderson, Skip Yvonne Patterson	Albany Whisks Albany, New York
1996	Wausau Highlanders Wausau, Wisconsin Lois Spear, Skip Nancy Roselius	Waltham Curleottes Waltham, Illinois
1997	Detroit Curling Club West Bloomfield, MI Bernice Butterworth Ineke de Zoeten	Heather Curling Club Mapleton, Minnesota



Figure 42 - 1989 US Seniors parade before the Final games in Anchorage, Alaska. Pictured are Luella Ansorge, Skip, Edith Workman, Eileen Whisman, Grace Iler Omaha, Nebraska.

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES JUNIOR LADIES' NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

In December, 1979 a survey was sent to all clubs by Margaret Smith, Chairman of a Junior Girls Study Group appointed by Rose Marie Barton, USWCA president. The original idea for a Junior Ladies' National Championship was introduced to the USWCA by Shirley Barcome, from Grand Forks, ND in 1980. She prepared detailed information on having the championship at Grand Forks in 1981. However no further action was taken until 1985 when the USWCA initiated another survey regarding individual clubs interest in junior competition.

Spring, 1985 Ann Brown initiated another survey regarding Junior Ladies Curling. Knowing that the International Curling Federation was considering a Junior World Championship in the future, her purpose was to begin at the regional and state level now so that the USA had a means of selecting their competitors.

The 1985-86 curling season was when it all came together. In October, 1985, the USWCA President, Anne Winslow, appointed an Ad Hoc committee to organize a Junior Ladies' National Championship. The committee consisted of Diane Brown (WI), Chairman; Jeanee Davis (NE), Isobel Rapaich (MN), Gerri Tilden (MN), Janelle Soderstrom (ND), Joni Cotten (IL), Ann Johnson (WI), Jill Owens (CT), Marion Frosch (WA) and Delores DeSautel (ND).

In March, 1986, the USCA approved a plan to coordinate all National Championships. Because it had not been a National event before that time, the Junior Ladies' status was not officially determined by the June, 1986 USCA Executive Board Meeting when they voted to sanction the Championship. As a part of that decision, the USWCA was to coordinate the 1987 Championship with the USCA officially overseeing it in the years to follow.

The First Annual National Junior Ladies' Championship was held January 21-25, 1987 in Madison, Wisconsin. Diane Brown was chairman of the event, which was an 8 team round robin competition. Teams were from Washington, Nebraska, North Dakota, Minnesota, Illinois (2) and Wisconsin (2). The Tracy Zeman team from Lodi, Wisconsin was the winner.



Figure 43 - The first National Junior Ladies Championship, 1987, winners.
Back (l. to r.) Tracy Zeman, Skip, Craig Bancroft, Coach, Joelle Chingo, alternate
Front (l. to r.) Pam Goetz, Lori Mayers, Shellie Holerud.

After this first Championship, the USCA officially approved the continuation of the Junior Ladies' Championship.

The second Annual Championship held in Grafton, ND in 1988 was the first time the USCA sponsored the event. Delores DeSautel was the

Chairman. The winning team, again the Tracy Zeman rink, had the honor of representing the United States at the first World Junior Ladies' Championship in Chamois, France, March 19-25, 1988.

In 1989, the USCA combined having the Junior Men's and Ladies' Championships, which were held in Duluth, MN, at the same time and place.

The trophy for the National Junior Ladies Championship was donated by the USWCA and is a traveling trophy. Participation pins to all competitors, and winner, runner-up and third place pins are given. Mr. and Mrs. Jim Stephens from Seattle, WA gave photo plaque awards to the winning teams (Men and Women) and to their home club. In 1993 the children of Dr. Robert Curtis From Portage, WI established a team sportsmanship award (Men's and Women's team) to be given in his honor each year.

Rules and regulations that have impacted the event

The name has been changed from Junior Ladies to Junior Women's to conform with the Men's and Women's Championships and the World Curling Federation.

For the first few years, the players entering the Junior Ladies' Championship were not allowed to compete in the Women's Championship as well, however that has since changed.

Also, the Juniors no longer must all belong to the same curling club in order to compete, although they still must play out of the state where the majority of teammates reside. (This is at the states' ruling and discretion.)

From the onset, the USWCA required that Junior Ladies teams be accompanied by a coach or parent at both the State and National level. The Junior Men have since adopted that rule as well. The wording was changed to "coach" or "responsible adult" and currently the rule reads "All teams competing in the National Championship shall be accompanied and supervised by an appropriate adult, subject to the approval of the National Chairperson".

Coaches have become very important to the sport of curling. At first, they were often the chaperone for those junior teams, but over the years, they are a necessary part of development and improvement of our young curlers. At the championships, the fifth-end break is a time when the teams can meet with their coach for advice and assistance.

After a medical emergency at the first Championship, Diane Brown recommended that all teams must have medical and insurance information with them at the competition, as well as parental permission for treatment if necessary. This has since become required for all Junior participants.

Diane Brown
Madison Toories



Figure 44 - Junior Women's Championship, Grindelwald, Switzerland. Bronze medal winners (l. to r.) Analissa Johnson, Debbie Henry, Stacey Liapis, Kari Liapis, and Erika Brown, Skip

JUNIOR WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS

DATE	WINNER	RUNNER-UP	DATE	WINNER	RUNNER-UP
1987	Tracy Zeman Pam Goetz Shellie Hierud Lori Myers Joelle Chingo	Doreen Foley Cyndie Risling Casandra Hardin Colleen Foley	1992	Erika Brown Kari Liapis Stacey Liapis Debbie Henry Kari Liapis All-Star Third	Heather Baumgardt Analissa Johnson Kelly Kirk Keeley Cook World Championship USA Silver
1988	Tracy Zeman Erika Brown Shellie Holerud Marnie Vaningan	Jan DeSautel Denise DeSautel Janelle Johnson Melinda Kingsbury Joanna Kingsbury	1993	Erika Brown Kari Liapis Stacey Liapis Debbie Henry Kari Liapis -All Star Third	Kaye Tlusty Karla Tlusty Kim Carlson Heather Docken World championship USA-Bronze
1989	Erika Brown Tracy Zeman Shellie Holerud Jill Jones	Kari Liapis Stacey Liapis Heidi Rolheiser Bobbie Breyen Michelle Knoer	1994	Erika Brown Debbie Henry Stacey Liapis Analissa Johnson Allison Darragh	Jennifer Herning Christiana Porter Nicole Fox Robyn Kalren World Championships USA-Silver
1990	Kari Liapis Stacey Liapis Heidi Rolheiser Bobbie Breyen	Doreen Foley Colleen Foley Nicole Erickson Jenny Fox	1995	Risa O'Connell Missi O'Connell Natalie Simenson Alison Naylor	Jennifer Herning Christina Porter Nicole Fox Robyn Karlen Meagan Fox World Championship USA -6th Place
1991	Erika Brown Jill Jones Shellie Holerud Debbie Henry	Kari Liapis Stacey Liapis Tracey Lindgren Heidi Rolheiser	1996	Amy Becher Theresa Faltesek Monica Carlson Heather Miller	Caitlin Costello Melanie Wood Andrea Stoddard Kristen Spahn Emily Bonfoey World Championship USA-10 Place
		1997		WINNER Risa O'Connell Amy Becher Natalie Simenson Missi O'Connor Jennifer Herning	RUNNER-UP Nicole Joraanstad Lyndsay Rosenlund Andrea Joraanstad Emily Good
				World Championship USA - 4th Place	

THE SENIOR WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP TOUR

The Senior Women's Friendship Tour began in 1990 following discussion with the International Exchange Tour Chairman of the Canadian Curling Association (CCA) and several Canadian curlers. The first tour took place with the United States hosting the Canadians in Minnesota and North Dakota, November, 1990. Reports on the tour written by Irene Konkin, the Canadian Tour Captain, and Winnie Bloomquist for the US, were read by the CCA following which the CCA voted to continue the tour on a three year rotational basis. USWCA curlers were invited to take part in the first Canadian sponsored tour in November, 1994 and visited the Maritime Provinces. The 1997 Friendship Tour of Canadian ladies to the United States was to be held on a regional basis in Wisconsin and Illinois; scheduled dates were November 8 to November 18, 1997.

The tour is basically self-supporting in that participants, both US and Canadian, pay for their travel, one or two nights of lodging if needed, uniforms and gifts. Other expenses such as the Friendship Tour pins that are given to the visitors, the program booklet and the official pictures are not considered as expenses of the tour participants.

Beginning in 1996, 2% of the annual USWCA membership dues are allocated each year to the Senior Women's Friendship Tour. This fund is to cover costs of the USWCA's sponsorship in hosting the Canadian visitors to the United States and the cost of the pin when the USWCA Senior Ladies go to Canada on tour.

The Friendship Tour pin was designed to be used for each tour and so has a space where the date of the current tour may be engraved. It is worn by USWCA tour participants, Canadian tour visitors and is presented to the USWCA president in office during the tour, CCA officials present for a tour and selected dignitaries.

Winnie Bloomquist - Drayton Ladies Curling Club



Figure 45 - 1994 Friendship Tour Team: Front (l. to r.) Kathy Kananen, Betty Kozai, Lynn Collins Rachel Birchard, Shirley Coe, Ginia Lewis; Back (l. to r.) Ruth Anderson, Nancy Wilbur, Nancy Roselius, Lorrie Michaeis, Bev Ferguson, Janice Duncan, Joyce Shaffer, Joan Vander Heiden, Betty Emerson, Anne Winslow

1990
 SENIOR FRIENDSHIP TOUR
 Canada Tours Minnesota & North Dakota
 November 25 to December 4

	Captain - Irene Konkin	Vice Captain - Phyllis MacDonald
Madeline Boyd	Whitehorse, Yukon	Adelaide Miller
Rita Udell	St. John's, New Brunswick	Mildred Engren
Margaret Rattray	Moncton, New Brunswick	Irene Konkin
Phyllis MacDonald	Halifax, Nova Scotia	Vickey Merryfield
Jean Daniel	Kenton, Manitoba	Audrey Cline
Frances Empay	Vancouver, B.C.	Lucille Richardson
Jean Skobalski	Vernon, B.C.	Eileen Smith
Gladys Post	Kelowna, B.C.	Helen Crich
		Keloena, B.C.
		Kroloena, B.C.
		Kamsack, Sask.
		Watrous, Sask.
		Allan, Sask.
		Moose Jaw, Sask.
		Saskatoon, Sask.
		Saskatoon, Sask.

Couriers: Marion Frosch, Winnie Bloomquist

Tour Itinerary: Bemidji, Virginia, Duluth, Mankato, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota. Grafton and Langdon, North Dakota.

1994
 SENIOR FRIENDSHIP TOUR
 USA Tours Maritime Provinces
 November 4th to 15th

Team Captain - Shirley Coe, Vice Captain - Anne Winslow, Secretary/Treasurer - Ginia Lewis

<p>Team #1</p> <p>Nancy Wilbur</p> <p>Betty Kozai</p> <p>Beverly Ferguson</p> <p>Lynn Collins</p>	<p>Team #2</p> <p>Ginia Lewis</p> <p>Ruth Anderson</p> <p>Joan Von der Heiden</p> <p>Roseanne Madden(replaced by Lorrie Michael)</p>
<p>Team #3</p> <p>Joyce Shaffer</p> <p>Janis Duncan</p> <p>Rachel Birchard</p> <p>Nancy Roselius</p>	<p>Team #4</p> <p>Shirley Coe</p> <p>Anne Winslow</p> <p>Kathy Kananen</p> <p>Betty Emerson</p>

Tour Itinerary: Dartmouth C.C. & New Glasgow C.C. in Nova Scotia; Beaver C.C. in Moncton, NB; Silver Fox C.C. Cornwall C.C. and Montague C.C. on Prince Edward Island.



Figure 46 - USWCA Representatives to USCA - Carla Casper 1991- 1997
Bonnie Dixon 1997-

USCA - USWCA AFFILIATION

The USWCA enjoyed an informal relationship with the USCA from 1957 to 1986. The President and another representative of the USWCA were invited to attend USCA meetings, and they were allowed 2 votes at the Board meetings of the USCA from 1978 to 1986.

Until 1986 the USWCA was responsible for all women's curling in the United States. With the inception of negotiations for the U.S. to field teams and enter the Olympic games, the curling world changed.

Only one organization could represent curling in the USOC, deferring to the USCA. At this point it became imperative for the USCA to become a non-discriminatory organization to qualify for Olympic entry and to accept funding from the USOC. In 1986 the USCA appointed an equal number of women and men to its Board of Directors.

In 1986 the USCA assumed responsibility for all women's curling in the U.S. that led to championship and Olympic curling. The USWCA continued to manage all other women's curling. By 1988 there was no longer any connection between the USWCA and the USCA.

The USWCA formed a committee in 1988 to study the possibility of an affiliation with the USCA : "to unite the organizations in an effort to sponsor the good of curling in the U.S. for both men and women."

In September, 1990, after much negotiating, the USCA presented the following proposal for affiliation with the USWCA:

JOINT USCA/USWCA AFFILIATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The United States Women's Curling Association will become affiliated with the USCA.
2. The USWCA will retain its name, direct and manage all activities currently under its control, including its treasury and membership dues collection.
3. A representative of the USWCA will serve on the USCA Board of Directors, with the same rights and privileges as other Directors (3 year term and may be reappointed by the USWCA). The USWCA representative will also serve on the USCA Executive Committee.
4. It is understood that each member of the USWCA is a member of her State/ Regional Association and the USCA, with responsibility for the respective dues of each organization.

Definition of an Affiliated body:

1. A national body that represents curling across the country.
2. One that has been in operation for at least ten years.
3. A 501 C-3 non profit organization.

This proposal was accepted by the USCA in principle to be voted on by the USWCA in October, 1990 for adoption.

In October, 1990, a motion was passed by the USWCA to accept the proposal for affiliation with the USCA in principle.

Our USWCA-USCA Liaison chairman, Carla Casper, was elected at the February, 1991 Board of Directors meeting of the USWCA for a 3 year term. She was reelected for another 3 year term in 1994. In February, 1997 Bonnie Dixon was elected as Liaison Chairman.

The USWCA remains an affiliated organization of the USCA with one representative who is a Board member of the USCA and is a voting member of the Executive Council.

Renee Spencer

FIVE YEAR AND UNDER CHALLENGE

The Five Year and Under Challenge was appointed as an Ad Hoc Committee in 1993. The goal was to encourage women with five years, or less, of total curling experience to participate in bonspiels, meet other new curlers and to curl in positions they would not normally curl. It is played on a regional basis: East, Central, Wisconsin, West I and West II. Each Regional Bonspiel is self sustaining, including all pin costs. Composite teams are eligible.

At the October, 1993 meeting the USWCA voted to award a traveling plaque to the first event winners in each region.

In February, 1996 the program was moved from Ad Hoc to a Standing Committee status.

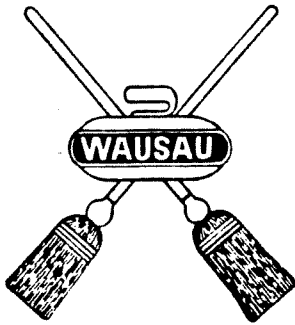
Joanna Owens - Nutmeg Curling club

MEMBER-AT-LARGE MEMBERSHIP

In 1994-95 a "Member-at-Large" category was added for membership in the USWCA. It established a way for retired curlers to support and stay in touch with curling friends and the activities sponsored by the USWCA,

A nominal membership fee is required each year and this list of members is included in the annual directory.

APPENDIX



THE BONSPIEL ROOM

1988

Featuring the
Elwell Curling Collection



The Bonspiel Room, located in the Marathon County Historical Museum in Wausau, Wisconsin was created in 1988. It came about as a result of Shirley (Mrs. Wm. C.) Elwell underwriting the costs to create the room and her donation of curling memorabilia collected over 35 years to furnish it.

The collection is believed to be the widest-in-scope display of historical curling artifacts in the United States today. It is hoped that, with additional and continuous donations of both items and financial support from curlers and curling clubs throughout the entire curling world, the exhibit will continue to grow. An effort has been made to emphasize the role women played in the rapid growth of curling from approximately 1950 to 1985, which is considered the peak in the sport to date. The impetus to this movement came about mainly as a result of the formation of the United States Women's Curling Association in 1947 and the introduction of Mixed Curling by the Milwaukee Kiltie women holding the first-ever Mixed Bonspiel in January of 1951.

The Opening Reception of the Bonspiel Room took place on Thursday, October 20, 1988 for all local curlers, Museum members and invited guests. The Formal Dedication and reception took place on Tuesday evening, January 16, 1990 during the Senior Ladies' National Curling Bonspiel hosted by the Wausau Highlanders at the Wausau Curling Club.

MIXED CURLING! A BLESSING TO US ALL

The Milwaukee Curling Club is credited with establishing Mixed Curling in this country.

Again, the honor goes to Milwaukee Kilties, Bernie Roth, who, in 1949 gathered together 30 wives whose names were listed "first" Kilties in the yearbook. Mixed curling began in the club and was played each Sunday afternoon. From then on, Women's curling just got better.

In 1950, at the spring meeting, President Bernie Roth spoke to the Kilties about the possibilities of a "Mixed Bonspiel". "If such a thing could be done", she said, "curling surely would become a "must" in Milwaukee and maybe the country!" All of the Kilties were certain she was right and directed the secretary to write a letter to the men's board, asking for permission to stage such a "spiel" the next year. The request to the men went from their board to their bonspiel committee. After a bit of discussion, and "No one else is doing it" and "Why Not?" and "What will it cost?" permission was granted and a three-day bonspiel was in the planning. It was understood that "the Club (meaning the men's curling club) would assume no responsibility"!

A three-day bonspiel was "in the making" ! Ice was available for Friday, Saturday and Sunday on a weekend with no conflict with usual curling and on the social-side, the Town Club was available for a "banquet". Out went invitations and "phonecalls", notes and telegrams came from curlers who wanted to be in the "First Mixed Bonspiel in the US"! The date, January 19, 1951 brought curlers together in an event they would never forget!

An appropriate pin was cast; gold with a green background, a circle in the middle citing "1st Mixed Bonspiel in the US " and "1951" in gold letters on red enamel, a curling stone in the center bearing "Milwaukee" and beneath it, "Curling Club". A man and woman, curlers, brooms in hand stand on either side of the circle. This pin was revived in 1975 when the club celebrated its 25th yearly bonspiel. In 1989 when Milwaukee hosted the World Curling Championships (first-time trial with men's and women's concurrent challenges) the participation pin reflected the coming event (to be held in March) with the Kiltie figure surround by the flags of all the contesting nations.

"The first "mixed" was a huge success"! The treasurer announced that, not only did the bonspiel pay for itself, it made money! So, the Kilties felt that they could start planning the 1952 'Spiell!

The Kilties, under the guiding hand of their Bernice, had established the "Milwaukee Mixed" on the calendar for the first weekend in January as an annual event.

Plans and thoughts are being given to the 50th in the year 2001 A.D

Maxine Gilboy, Milwaukee Kiltie

OLYMPIC CURLING

Curling was an Olympic demonstration sport in 1924, 1932, 1988 and 1992. A sport is "demonstrated" in the hopes it will become a medal sport.

The 1988 Calgary Olympics marked the first time women curlers competed. In April of 1987 an Olympic Trial was held in St. Paul, MN. Thirty-two men's teams competed in a modified triple knockout, and 16 women's teams in a double elimination format. The winning teams, both from Wisconsin, were:

Men:	Bud Somerville	Women:	Lisa Schoeneberg
	Bob Nichols		Erika Brown
	Bob Christman		Lori Mountford
	Tom Locken		Carla Casper
	Bill Strum		Diane Brown

In 1992, Albertville, France, curling was still a demonstration sport. The men won a Bronze Medal: Bud Somerville, Tim Somerville, Mike Strum and Bill Strum. The women did not have a team represent the USA, because the USA team at the prior World competition did not finish high enough. Winner of the US trials in 1992 was the Schoeneberg team: playing with Lisa were Erika Brown, Lori Mountford and Jill Jones.

In July of 1992 the sport of Curling was elevated to full medal status by the International Olympic Committee

As Curling had not been in the planning for the Winter Olympics, 1996, in Norway, no competition was held.

Nagano, Japan will be the site of the 1998 Olympic Winter Games, Curling will be scheduled. The USA will be represented by both men and women teams.

Nagano, Japan will be the site of the 1998 Olympic Winter Games, Curling will be scheduled. The USA will be represented by both men and women teams.

The 1997 Olympic Trial Process: Three men's teams and three women's teams have qualified in a National Trial held in Hibbing, Mn in April of 1997. There will be a final Olympic Trial held in December of 1997. Six men's teams and six women's teams will compete: The 1996 National Champions, the 1997 National Champions, the 1997 runners-up at Nationals will join those who qualified in April. Winners will represent the USA in Nagano, Japan (1998).

USA will host the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. Curling is scheduled and the host country have automatic entries.

Carla Casper
USCA/USWCA Liaison



Figure 47 - The Wisconsin Team, winners at the US Olympic Curling Championship Trials, who represented the USA at the 1988 Calgary Winter Olympics. The first time participation of women in Olympic Curling. (l. to r.) Lisa Schoeneberg, Carla Casper, Lori Montford, Erika Brown

HOW THE GRAND CLUB BECAME "ROYAL"
150 years ago at Scone Palace

On 7th September, 1842 the Earl Of Mansfield, president of the Grand Caledonian Curling Club, presided at a ceremony in Scone Palace at which the title "Royal" was conferred on the Club when Prince Albert agreed to become the Club Patron.

Here is the report of the occasion in the 1843 Royal Caledonian Curling Club Annual:

The Earl of Manfield, in presence of the Queen, her Majesty's Ministers, and the guests assembled in the Palace of Scone, presented to his Royal Highness Prince Albert a splendid pair of Curling Stones, made of the finest Ailsa-Craig granite, most beautifully finished and ornamented, the handles being formed of silver, and bearing an appropriate inscription.

The Stones were most graciously accepted by the Prince, who expressed a determination to put them, at a fitting time, to a practical test, and gave directions for their immediate transmission to Windsor.

The noble Earl replied, that he hoped he might enjoy an early opportunity of initiating his Royal Highness into all the mysteries of the "rink".

Her Majesty inquired particularly, respecting the game of Curling, and, with a view to illustrate the explanations that were given to her Majesty by Lord Mansfield, the polished oaken floor of the room was summarily converted into "a rink", and the Stones were sent "roaring" along its smooth and even surface. And we have reason to know that her Majesty herself "tried her hand" at throwing the Stones, although they proved to be too heavy for her delicate arm.

Both her Majesty and the Prince expressed surprise when informed as to the usual length of a "rink," and appeared to imagine that it must require a very great degree of strength to propel the stones to such a distance.

The Noble Lord, also at the request of the Club, solicited his Royal Highness to honour the Club by becoming its Patron, to which request the Prince, with ready condescension, consented. His Royal Highness is therefore now patron of this great association of Curlers, who have done so much to revive and extend one of the most ancient and delightful games that belong to Scotland.

Taken from The Scottish Curler, October, 1992.

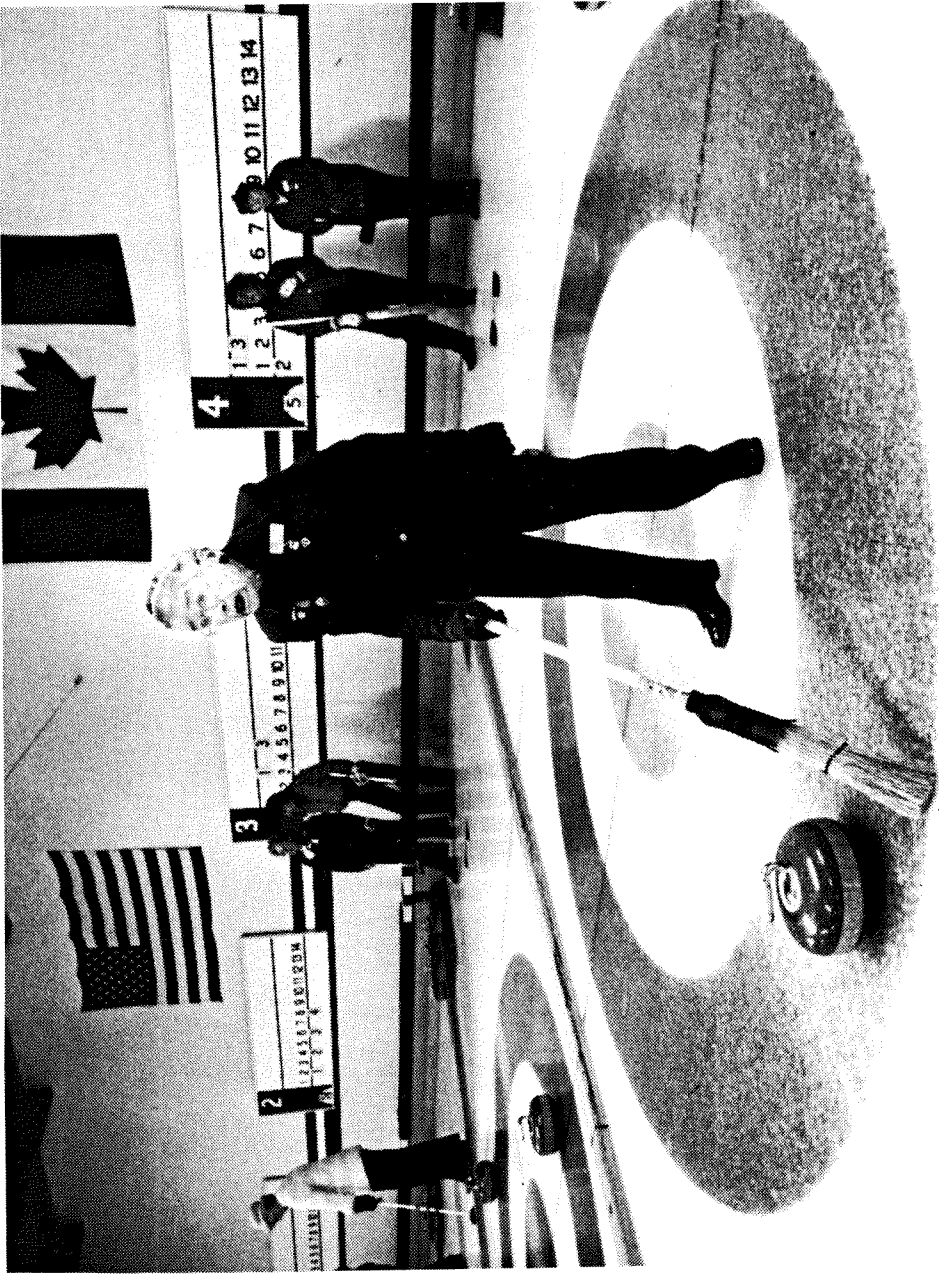


Figure 48 - 1984 Peg McRae still an active Seattle curler at 85!

THE CURLERS GRACE

Oh God, whose love surrounds us all
And brings us all together

Who writes your laws upon our hearts
And bids us help each other

We bless you for your bounty great
For meat, and home and gear

And thank you, Lord, for snow and ice
Although we ask for more

Give us a heart to do what's right
As curlers true and keen

To be good friends along life's road
And sweep our sheet e'er clean.

