



Petersfield – 1963. Taken by Jack Rankin, grandson of Mr. & Mrs. F.O. Sargent who formerly lived where Bruce and Bonnie Dalman now reside.

Petersfield Community Club by George Einarson

The original Petersfield Hall was called the “Woodman’s Hall”. We are not sure when it was built. This is now part of Buck Hermanson’s house. The present hall was built in 1954. The new addition was built in 1971. Before the changes the kitchen was where the bar is now and the bar was in between the two washroom doors. The men’s washroom was downstairs with the ladies washroom where the men’s washroom is now. The kitchen was put into the new addition along with cloakroom and storage rooms.

In recent years the inside of the hall was painted and new wallboard has been put up.

The hall is used for socials, weddings, showers, anniversaries, dinners and funerals. Meetings and elections are also held in the hall. The community club is run by a Board of Directors of nine with elections usually held in January.

Fundraisers consist of teas, bake sales, pancake breakfasts, dances and raffles.

The current Board is:

President: George Einarson

Vice President: Leslie Donohoe

Secretary: Carol Trippier

Treasurer: Jim Want

Caretaker: Shirley Zamatis

Bill Clarke, Helen Walker, Francis Hall and Don Nedohin

Honourary Board Member is Doug Hacking

In 1967, in conjunction with the Curling Club and the Ball Club the first Petersfield Sports Day and Reunion was held. This was a good fundraiser and a great time for everyone. It was held for over 25 years before a lack of volunteers and ball teams caused the interest to die.

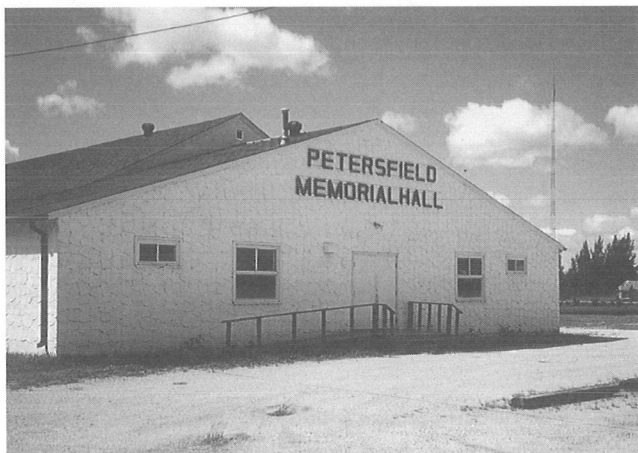
Recently we have had a new group of people who got the community together to fundraise for the world’s largest mallard duck. What a beautiful sight

to see as you drive down the highway. The Donohoe family donated the two acres for the duck. The committee consisted of Curly Gagnon, Mrs. Elva Juba, Peter Pruden, Ted Balcaen, Bill Fedorchuk, Eldon Mogg and Jean Michael.

We also have an enterprising family who has built a golf course on their property. Just recently they have added a new clubhouse with a restaurant and lounge. They are presently working on their second nine holes, hoping to open in 2001. Congratulations and Good Luck to Bonnie and Bruce Dalman.

With a fire in the old (second) curling rink, a brand new four sheet Curling Rink was built in 1990. Due to tremendous support from the members and the community, the club was paid for completely.

Mrs. Lemoine turns 104 years this year and will see three centuries in the year 2000.



Petersfield Hall, 1999.

The Petersfield Curling Club

Petersfield organized their first curling club in 1938. That year they built their first rink, a two sheet rink constructed of 2" x 4" x 8 foot studding sheeted with 6" tongue and groove siding in a gable roof style, with a small waiting room at one end.

John Veitch was the first president of the Petersfield curling club. The rink was built on the property of the Veitch family. The Veitch family gave the curling club a 99 year lease for one dollar, with the privilege to cancel any time with one year written notice. The 32 volt lighting plant the Veitches used in their business was used to supply lights for the curling rink until Manitoba Hydro power became available. This arrangement between the Veitches and the curling club went on for twenty years, until 1958 when the club decided to build a new rink.

For the record we should mention that the

Veitches operated a general store and a service garage, along with Petersfield transfer in the village. John Veitch also had a farm at that time, on which he had built a new barn 34 feet wide and 68 feet long, with a large gothic roof. In 1937 and 1938 the Petersfield curling club used this barn to hold barn dances to raise funds to pay for their curling rink.

In the early days of the club the rinks were made up of both men and women (known today as mixed curling). In some cases children curled on the rinks and it became a very enjoyable family affair, dad and mom and the kids or dad and the kids. The club drew members from an area 11 miles long and eight miles wide with some members driving as far as nine miles one way. Some would drive part way with a team of horses to catch a ride with a neighbour, others would walk part way. At today's standards this was an amazing feat to get to curl one or two nights a week.

The first few layers of ice were made by dumping 45 gallon barrels of well water as evenly as possible on the entire curling surface. After it seemed fairly level, the rinks were painted. Ice was taken from Lake Winnipeg to melt for the top flood and for pebbling. Although the curling ice was often very good, it was just as often very bad. All curlers coming out of the Petersfield Curling Club had to learn to read some pretty tricky or sometimes downright crooked curling ice. Nevertheless, the club tied the families and the community together, and almost everyone participated in and enjoyed the Petersfield Curling Club.

The first rocks were purchased from some of the members of the Thistle Curling Club in Winnipeg. Prior to 1938 the Thistle Curling Club members had owned their own curling rocks. In 1938, the Thistle Curling Club purchased it's own rocks. The rocks that the Petersfield club and its members were buying were of several different sizes and weights and most had different colored handles. We used to hang tassels on them to determine which sheet the rocks belonged to. You seldom got the same rocks two games in a row so you were continuously adjusting to the rocks, some would be a lot wider than the others, some narrower, some weighed a lot more, some, a lot less. However they filled our needs and allowed us to have many years of enjoyment in the old two-sheeter.

In the mid 1950's, we were able to acquire a more even set of rocks from the Sanford Curling Club. Early in the 1950's, the ladies formed their own curling club. We have operated both a men's and a women's curling club ever since.

A note on the humorous side is, one year the ladies were one rink short for an even draw for their

bonspiel. Four men, dressed as women entered the bonspiel. While the ladies all dressed in their usual curling slacks, these four "lassies" all dressed in skirts. Ed Foster, Bill Taylor, Jim Luke and Phil Kusner. The ladies made one stipulation before this entry could be accepted, all being right handed curlers, they had to agree to throw left handed.

In 1958 the club decided to build a new rink. It was built beside the Memorial Hall on property previously donated to the community club by John Veitch for community use. The decision was made to build a three sheet rink using the dring type rafters, giving us this style of building. The building was made large enough to have a two foot walkway along both sides and across the far end, and a four foot walk at the home end. Also a nice size waiting room with a snack bar and indoor plumbing, a service room, hot water tanks, water pumps, etc. Above all of this we had our club rooms and some storage. The club room had a view of the ice surface, which was a first for the clubs in our area.

Construction started in the early summer by contracting out the cement work, this included the foundation and holding tank for water. The holding tank was built under the waiting room. With the cement in place, volunteer labour took over. The entire rink was built with volunteer help from within the club, the only exception to this would be some of the wiring and all of the plumbing. The building itself was an attractive structure with plywood on the rafters covered with aluminum roofing.

Of course when you take on a project like this there is always the matter of money, so while all this building was going on, a large fund raising project was underway also.

There were many generous donations from individual curlers, two or three raffles, but the main source of income was obtained once again by holding dances every second Saturday night, this time in the Petersfield hall. With the music supplied by Porky Charboneau and the CKRC Red River Valley Boys the hall was always filled to capacity or over capacity. Liquor regulations were such that a permit had to be taken out allowing a wet bar, but the guests were not allowed to carry their own beer, they had to be served at their tables. Once again members willingly volunteered their services, working four at a time in shifts. This went on during construction and for some time after. The dedication and enthusiasm for this project was something to be admired. The rink was completed by the winter of 1958. The curling club purchased 3 new sets of matched rocks and the first rock was thrown before Christmas.

The Petersfield curling club had a new three sheet curling rink. Along with our regular curling of

a men's league, a woman's league and a mixed league, the Petersfield curling club has had a junior league in place since the mid 50's. The junior curling took place every Saturday for as many draws as necessary to accommodate their entry. We used an oil furnace to heat our waiting room and our club room until gas became available. When gas became available we converted our furnace and installed heaters in the ice area at this time.

In 1974 the club decided to install artificial ice. This involved excavating the entire ice area to a depth of four feet. It was decided that the inside four feet wide and three feet deep had to be taken out by wheelbarrow and shovel to avoid any possible damage to the existing perimeter footings. Digging this out started as the frost was leaving the ground. The volunteers were at it once again. Four feet of soil was removed from the entire ice area, replaced by sand and compacted. Weeping tile was placed around the inside perimeter at the four foot level and a heat tape was run around the perimeter to try to keep the frost from heaving at the outside walls. An open pit was formed and poured four feet wide across the entire home end directly below the header. The weeping tile could drain into this. The pit also allowed us to wash the new artificial ice, 4x4 timbers were put into place, wire chairs were installed and the pipes were laid into place. After this was completed and at the very last minute we decided to pour a cement floor for the new ice area. The theory behind all of this was to keep the area under the ice as dry as possible, to reduce heaving, to allow easier flooding and to allow us to use the ice shed in the summer if we wanted to.

The first rock was thrown on our new artificial ice in November of 1974. The ice was remarkably keen and very true. The following year the club decided to insulate the ice shed with two, one inch layers of styrofoam. It was remarkable to see our members, some of them seniors on scaffolding installing the sheets of styrofoam up to the very peak of the ice shed. The idea of the styrofoam was to reduce the condensation problem, save some heat loss and to add to the appearance of the rink.

The total cost of the artificial ice and the insulation was \$79,783.00. A grant of \$20,000 was obtained from Manitoba Fitness, Recreation and Sport.

A fund raising committee was formed once again. They sold tickets for yards of concrete at \$25.00 per yard. The response was excellent with many people buying more than one yard. The donors names were put on a plaque which still hangs in our rink. As usual the club held dances in our hall, this time they took the form of a midnight

dance every Sunday night of a long weekend. Volunteers once again ran these dances.

The Petersfield dances had by now become very famous or infamous as many of the club members can point out, however we all lived through them, we all enjoyed them, and helped pay for the improvements and continued operation of our curling club.

One single event must be mentioned here when we talk about fund raising. For many years the Petersfield curling and community clubs have held an annual sports day or sports weekend. This has contributed greatly to the extra funds for our curling club. Sportsday required a lot of effort from almost all of the people who lived in Petersfield and the surrounding area.

One name stands alone when we talk about the Petersfield sports day, the chairman of the Petersfield sports day committee, Doug Hacking. I have often told Doug that someday the sports day committee will bronze him and stand him in the sports day grounds.

By 1982 most of the surrounding curling rinks had installed permanent bars. The curling club members decided to put an addition onto their curling rink. The idea was to enlarge the waiting room and kitchen area on the main floor and the club room on the second floor. A full sized basement was built under the extension to house the furnace, the flood tank, the pumps, a small shop area and a liquor storage room. The whole addition was built to specification with the view of installing a permanent bar in the future. To accommodate this addition we had to tear down the entire south wall. One of the first things to come down was the huge exhaust fan that had belched out the aroma of the by now famous "Jennie Galagun cooking". Jennie operated the concession for many years and had established the Petersfield curling club as one of the best places to eat in the Interlake.

The total cost of the addition was \$82,000. A grant was secured from the provincial government to help pay some of the costs, the remainder was raised through club efforts, The entire project was paid for in four years. There was, as usual, a great deal of volunteer help put into this project. Club members did all of the drywall, Wilmer Fedorchuk built the bar and the trophy cases, and our women did the entire interior decoration.

In 1988 the club decided to refinish the interior of the rink once again. This time, the inside of the entire ice shed was relined with refinished aluminum siding. At the same time, some of the local businesses donated new lighted score boards. The ice area was one of the prettiest in Manitoba.

The 1988-89 season was our 50th anniversary. After lining the inside of the rink we also received a license to install a permanent bar in our club room. This was a complete climax to our years on renovation, something we were looking forward to enjoying for many years to come.

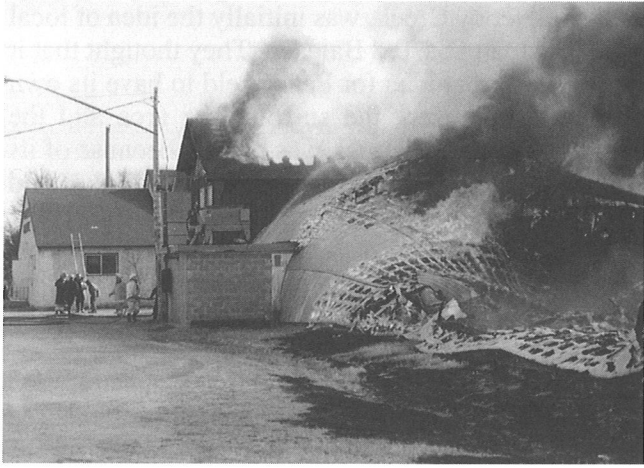
In January of 1989 we gathered to celebrate our 50th anniversary. After a few drinks from our newly established bar and renewing many old acquaintances, we moved out to the ice surface for the ribbon cutting ceremony to open our newly renovated facility. Cutting the ribbon was performed by John Veitch, founder and original President. Participants to the ribbon cutting ceremony included most of the past presidents, most of the honorary life members, the president of the M.C.A. and provincial governments representative.

After the ribbon cutting ceremony we moved over to the Petersfield memorial hall for a supper followed by a dance. There were 280 in attendance. After supper some time was spent honoring the original members for their foresight in establishing a facility that would bring many years of enjoyment. Also honored were those members, past and present, for hard work and effort put in toward the facility. A facility that had been built for our enjoyment, and hopefully for the enjoyment of generations to come. At that point we were a mighty proud bunch. We were finally where we wanted to be.

However our sense of satisfaction was very short lived. Our dream of enjoying what we had worked so hard for in the past, was not to be. In the late afternoon of Sunday, April 22, 1990 tragedy struck. Our entire facility burned to the ground, it was sad, real sad. The fortunate thing was that the fire started in an area that allowed us time to save our rocks, our trophies and our plaques of recognition. This brought to a tragic end a chapter of our club that can never be repeated. Though we may have lost our pride and joy, it is with great respect



Fire, April 22, 1990, (consumed the rink).



Fire, April 22, 1990, (consumed the rink).

that we credit our members in charge today for not missing even a part of a curling season. We will now relate the events of the next seven months.

Clean up began immediately after the fire. The insurance was settled within two weeks and our president called a general meeting. All past, present and future members, and all others interested in our community were asked to attend. The meeting was held Monday May 14, 1990 to discuss the future of our curling club. This meeting was very well attended and a very interesting and informative discussion was held. Items discussed were, whether to build another three sheet rink or expand to a four sheet facility, and whether to build on the same site or go to a new site. The new site was a 20 acre piece of land adjoining the village, donated by a long time resident, Mrs. Michael, many years before for future community use.

The decision was to build a four sheet rink on the new site. The next order of business was to set up a building committee, discuss funding, and to set up a fund raising committee. After the meeting, as in most major financial decisions, there was some skepticism and some optimism, both of which were justified. At the meeting our president made a remark that we would be curling in our new rink when the curling season starts. That seemed like a long shot with the amount of work to be done, to start with the Municipality had to put in about 100 yards of street before we could even get into the site to start any work on the rink. Some of us were a little doubtful, but in the end our president was right.

The events of the next few months was nothing short of amazing, without going into full details, the following is a summary of the progress made.

Tenders were let and a contractor was selected. The Municipality put the street in. The top soil was stripped off of the new site where the rink was to be built. By the middle of July the piles were driven

and the forms for the foundation were being built. During this time the well was drilled. Once the forms were completed, the concrete was poured, after it set up the framing for the club rooms and the waiting room was started and the compressor room was built.

In August Inter City Gas installed the gas line. The base material for the ice surface was hauled in, leveled, and compacted. When the compacting was completed the styrofoam insulation for the ice surface was put in place. Next came the hundreds of feet of pipe laid out in an orderly fashion. The pipe was covered with concrete. This completed the ice surface. While all of this was going on, the electricians and the plumbers were hard at work. The septic field was put in. Once the concrete set up, the framework for the main building began.

Up till now the progress being made was not too noticeable to the outsider looking in, but from this point on the progress was much more obvious. Once it was all covered and the interior finished, it gave us a sense of pride that more than compensated for our previous loss.

When we look at our new facility it certainly alleviates our past grief. We take pride in announcing that we are now in possession of one of the most attractive and modern curling rinks in Manitoba.

The speed with which this project progressed is a tribute to the entire building committee and the contractor. While we have tried to avoid mentioning individual names as much as possible throughout this history, we feel compelled at this time to pay special tribute to two of our members, our president Dave Fish and our treasurer Wayne Bracken, not only for the many hours they spent on the project, but also for their knowledge and ability. They showed great leadership. Also deserving of special recognition are these two gentleman's wives, Linda Fish and Ollie Bracken. Not only did these two ladies spend many husbandless hours and take control of things at home, they pitched in whenever possible and assisted their husbands with the project. A special thanks to these two families.

Upon completion of construction we held an open house on Sunday November 18, 1990 for the benefit of the general public to view the facility that we now own. There was a good turn out for this occasion. Curling was to have started on Monday, November 19 but was delayed one day, as a flood put on that day had not frozen hard enough. Curling started on Tuesday, November 20, 1990. This was two days short of seven months after our rink had burned down. Our president's prediction of May 14 was correct. The official opening was held on January 26, 1991. The cost of this facility was in the

neighborhood of \$700,000 and when it opened it was completely free of any debt. This was due to good insurance coverage on the old rink, a provincial grant that was available, a municipal donation, some business donations and some individual donations.

This brings to date a brief history of the Petersfield Curling Club as researched and recorded by Roy Taylor, Gordon Kizuik, and Murray Foster.



New Petersfield Curling Club – official opening Jan. 26, 1991.

The Petersfield Mallard Duck by Teri Clegg

The Petersfield Mallard Duck statue in the Petersfield Park, located on Highway #9 and the

banks of Netley Creek, was initially the idea of local residents Joan and Ted Balcaen. They thought that it would be a great idea for Petersfield to have its own symbol to represent the surrounding area and the village. The Mallard duck was chosen because of its abundance in the Petersfield, Netley Lake and Netley Marsh areas.

A committee was formed between residents from the area and a representative from the municipality. The committee consisted of four members. Elva Juba, local resident, was the president, By-Law Enforcement Officer and Municipal Constable, J.C “Curly” Gagnon, was the vice-president, while Ted Balcaen, and Peter Pruden were members of the committee.

The committee toured various communities around Manitoba to inspect the delicate craftsmanship of their wildlife statues. After viewing these statues and taking into consideration the recommendations of the committees from other towns, the Petersfield committee decided to hire Wayne Arthur to construct their statue. Wayne Arthur is a resident of the Rural Municipality of St. Andrews and was highly recommended by the Towns that the committee visited. The committee also deemed his craftsmanship the best. He completed the Mallard Duck in 1996 and it was placed in the Petersfield Park the same year.

Wayne Arthur passed away November 30, 1999.



Mallard Duck Monument at Petersfield.

The Netley Creek Golf Course **by Teri Clegg**

The Netley Creek Golf Course is located in the northern part of the municipality west of Petersfield. The nine-hole course runs along the banks of the Netley Creek. The par 36 course is 3131 yards long and currently sits on eighty acres of land. Designed with the help of Helmut Kopp, superintendent at the St. Charles Golf and Country Club, and constructed, seeded and irrigated under the direction of Ralph Schofield of Clandeboye, the first course superintendent, the course offers a driving range and clubhouse. The clubhouse is a new addition to the course and was opened on June 15, 1998. The clubhouse offers a restaurant, registered as the Mallard Café,

pro-shop, and sports bar. The course originally had a snack shack that was built out of an existing grainery. This was used before the new clubhouse was built.

The golf course is owned and operated by Bruce and Bonnie Dalman. The Dalman's took eighty acres of their dairy farmland and diversified it into the present day course. They started construction in 1988 and the course was officially opened in the fall of 1991. Expansions are currently under construction for the back nine holes, which will therefore offer the public an eighteen-hole course. This will open in 2001. Other future expansions also include mini-golf and Eco-tour packages.

Petersfield – The Masters Development



Masters Development, East end of Petersfield – Netley Creek to the Red River, 1998. Aerial photo taken by Paul Wilson.

Rossdale



Rossdale Parish Hall, Donald Road and Skazyk Road.

Rossdale Ukrainian Dance School by Linda Skromeda

The Rossdale Ukrainian Dance School was established with the hope of preserving Ukrainian culture in the form of dance in the community.

It all started in 1977 in the Rossdale area. With "plenty of will and determination", Linda Skromeda with the assistance of Betty Ducheck and Caryle Andryo set forth to make the dream a reality.

Under the advisement of the parish priest of St. Mary's Church in Rossdale, Reverend Semen Izyk and Deacon Alex Bodykevich, the first instructors were hired - Julie Parij Bailey and Peter Pawlyshyn.

The first stone in a strong foundation had been laid and the Rossdale Ukrainian Dance School was born. As well as instructing the eager students, Julie and Peter gave the directors the guidance and advice needed to establish the reputation of the school and to maintain the quality needed for its growth.

The changes came; classes moved to St. Andrews School, recital performances moved from St. Andrews School Gym, to the Lord Selkirk Comprehensive School Theatre to Pantages Playhouse Theatre.

Enrollment grew from 55 students to as many as 173 dancers. The executive increased as well to handle the various jobs that needed to be done. The school costume wardrobe increased with the help and dedication of Getta Surzyszyn.

The school was also very fortunate to maintain the "expertise and loyalty" of its musical director - John Lwiwski who has remained since its inception.

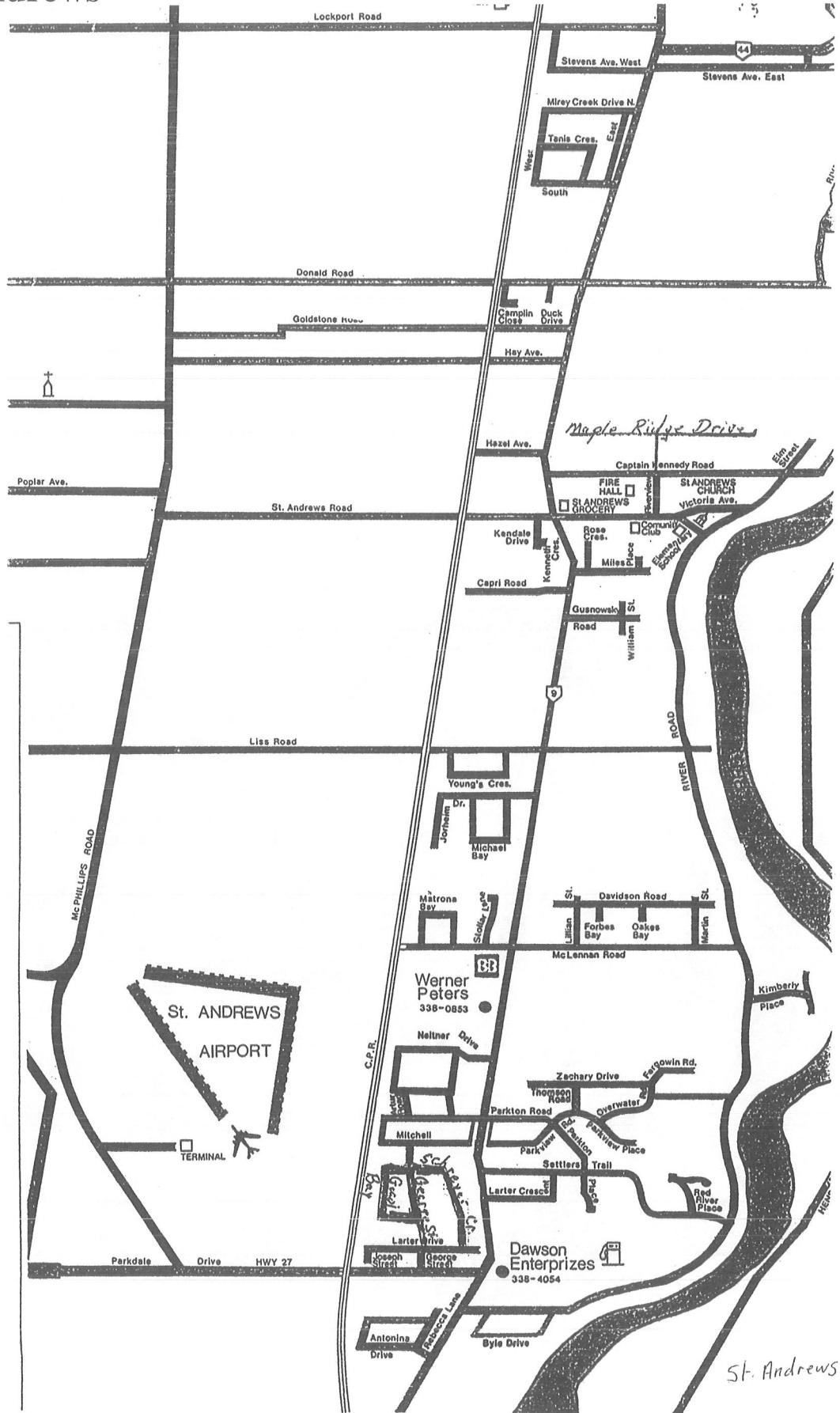
From the Rossdale Ukrainian Dance School the senior dance group "Vitretz" evolved. These dancers have earned a reputation of professionalism through their enthusiasm, high energy and quality performances. They have travelled throughout the province and beyond, the most noteworthy and prestigious being - Expo '86 in Vancouver, San Diego, California and Orlando, Florida.

This proud dance school strives to maintain its high standards in performances and quality costuming; for this we owe our thanks to the past presidents - Linda Skromeda 1977-1986, Carolyn Dubowits 1986-1989, Sonia Wasylyshyn 1989-1992, Merlyn Onyschuk 1992-1995, Donna Sutherland 1995-1997, Gail Gel 1997-1999 and Janice Farion 1999-present.



Senior Group of Rossdale Ukrainian Dancers 1986-87. 1st row – Monica Bazan, Pat Myketa, Amy Siragusa ~ 2nd row – Shelley Wishnowski, Pam Wishnowski, Candace Nowell, Rosanna Siragusa ~ 3rd row – Maryann Woloshyn, Kendra Tarka, Karen Surzyszyn, Karen Woychshyn, Theresa Zelych, Janice Bobrowich, Paula Porznak, Debra Skromeda, Diane Shymkiw, Leanne Dubowits ~ 4th row – David Skromeda, Corey Andryo, Garry Preachuk, Jay Knysh, Randy Skromeda, Chris Woloshyn, Greg Bobrowich, Allan Skazyk, Richard Nowell.

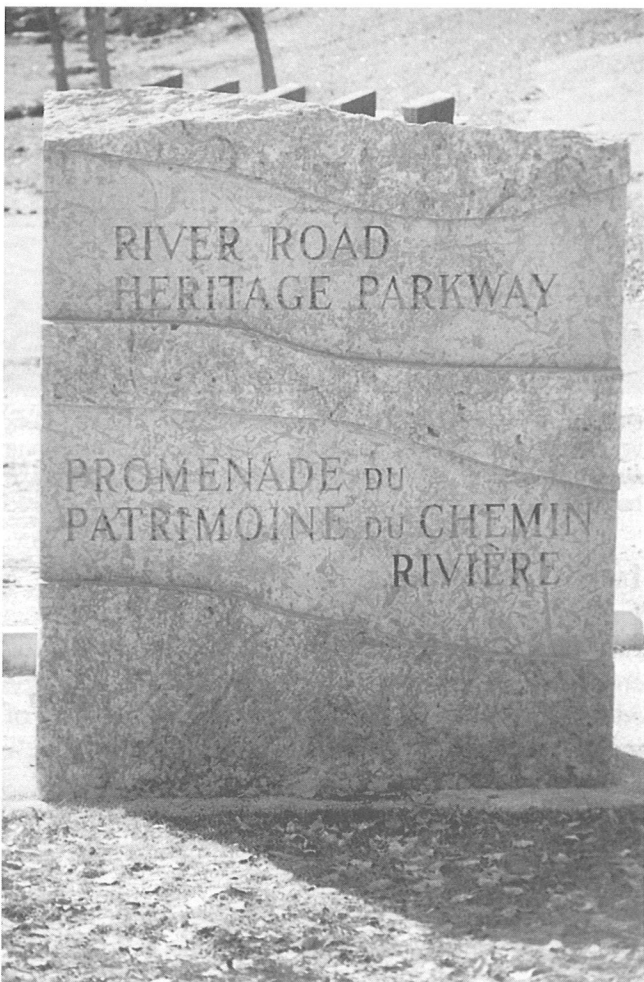
St. Andrews



The Community of St. Andrews

by Barbara and Bill Gessner

The community of St. Andrews is located in the southern part of the Municipality and is the largest and most densely populated area of the Municipality. The St. Andrew's community was originally called "The Rapids" and the first Anglican log church (1831-1849) was referred to as "The Rapids Church". The former name of the area was Sault à la Biche (Deer Rapids) named by the first French explorers who came through the area in the 1700's. Lord Selkirk in his journal, referred to the rapids as the Limestone Rapids and at one time considered establishing his settlement here rather than at the forks of the Red and Assiniboine, which were prone to flooding.



River Road Heritage Parkway – St. Andrews.

When the Hudson Bay Company and the North West Company amalgamated in 1821, it was this area where many of the retired HBC employees were settled. Each employee was given land fronting on the Red River as it was the main means of transportation, and also provided them with fish

for food. The narrow river lots provided close neighbours for help when needed. There were houses located on every river lot from Parkdale to Lower Fort Garry. The river road then was only a trail that went in front of the houses.

Rev. William Cockran's stone church built in the area of the Rapids, was consecrated and named St. Andrews by Bishop Anderson on December 19, 1849. St. Andrews is the patron saint of Scotland and the majority of the settlers here came from the Orkney Islands in Scotland. The area from then on became known as St. Andrews.

A road allowance in the approximate location of Highway #9 between Parkdale and Lower Fort Garry was put through in the 1890's but was not widely used. Travel to Winnipeg along this roadway was very difficult, especially after a rain. Willow branches would have to be placed under the wagon wheels to get them over the mud. A trip to Winnipeg was usually a two-day excursion. This road was upgraded over the years, with ditches, drainage and asphalt. In 1956- 57 this part of the highway became four lanes.



Flooded ditch on St. Andrew's Road in 1923 – now PTH 410.

Electricity came to the area in the late 1920's along what is now Highway #9. The transformers were bought by the people, sometimes more than one family shared the cost. With the introduction of electricity, numerous families moved from River Road to the highway to take advantage of the power. The river road area did not receive electricity until the late 1940's.

Farming was the main industry in the area. There used to be grist mills throughout the area where wheat was ground into flour. John Tait had a mill on Parks Creek and there was also another one behind St. Andrews Church operated by the Richard family. Livestock were pastured west of McPhillips

Road and only milk cows were brought home daily. Sometimes this involved crossing the #9 highway. On Sundays the herd would be brought home an hour earlier to avoid the heavier traffic returning from the Lake Winnipeg beaches. Today, it takes forever to get across the #9 highway in a car, never mind trying to get cattle across.

Subdivisions started to emerge in the area, one of the first being on McLennan Road. Today as more and more farmers retire, their land is being sold for subdivisions and our population continues to grow.

More history of the community and how it changed can be found elsewhere in the book:

Place Names of Manitoba published 1980

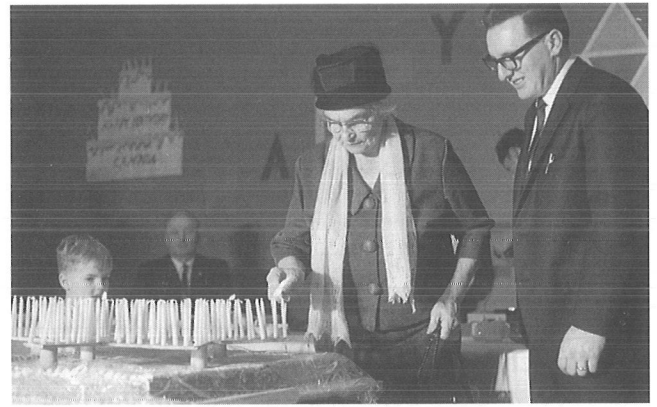
St. Andrews Canada's Centennial



Canada's Centennial Celebrations: At St. Andrews School lighting the 100 candle Centennial cake – Albert Gessner, George Larter, unknown, Nick Yuzark, Ron Tocholke (sitting), with Mr. F. Tanner standing next to George Larter's right.



Canada's Centennial Celebrations at St. Andrew's Church: Peter Duchek, Councillor Ward 2 (in buffalo coat); on the extreme right is Charlie Gessner with Shetland pony Mae.



Canada's Centennial Celebrations: Mrs Anna Gessner with Mr E. Keryluk lighting candles of centennial cake. Charles Johnston (4 yrs) and Peter Duchek in back ground.



Canada's Centennial Celebrations: Oldest citizen, Nick Wowchuk, cutting cake aided by Elmer Keryluk. Mrs Anna Gessner looking on – Rev. R. Cawley and Mrs Cawley in background.

1st St. Andrews on the Red (Scouts Canada)

Scouting is alive and well in St. Andrew's at the end of this millennium. Our local group was restarted in September of 1996 after a couple of years of inactivity. The four founding members of this new group were:

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| J. David Graham | Group Committee Chairperson |
| Peggy Graham | Group Committee Secretary/ Treasurer |
| Hank Bogers | Wolf Cub Pack Leader (Akela) |
| Albert Hartwig | Beaver Colony Leader (Hawkeye) |

These four individuals formed the group committee for this new group. The role of the group committee is to look after the administration of the group and ensure the smooth delivery of the Scouting Programs. They were also responsible for getting the new group off the ground.

The first hurdle to overcome was to find a name for our group. The group name could not be just "1st

St. Andrews" because that name was already taken by a group in Portage la Prairie so we added "on the Red" to "1st St. Andrews" and our group became "1st St. Andrews on the Red". Next, we needed a sponsor for our group, so we approached Terry Dann, principal of St. Andrew's School. He graciously accepted being our new sponsor, since most of the youth involved in the Scouting Programs in our area attended St. Andrew's School. Unfortunately, Mr. Dann was unable to provide adequate meeting space for our group, but we were successful in obtaining the gymnasium at Lockport Junior High School for two nights a week, Tuesdays for Cubs and Thursdays for Beavers. We would like to thank the staff of Lockport Junior High School for their ongoing support of our programs, especially Mr. Job Globa who made it all possible.

Every group has unique neckerchiefs and shoulder crests, in part to identify themselves from other groups. 1st St. Andrews on the Red have a blue neckerchief with a white border because these are the colours of our sponsor, St. Andrew's School. Our crests are also blue and white and feature an oxcart which is the symbol for St. Andrew's School.

The next challenge was to recruit leaders. On registration night, as the youth came to sign-up, we were overwhelmed by the support of the parents, many of whom signed up that night as leaders. One of our groups guiding principles was that our leaders should only give their time. To that end our group pays for all leader expenses including registration, uniforms and training. Many groups in Manitoba have had difficulty recruiting leaders. Fortunately for us recruiting and retaining leaders has not been a problem. Without the generous contributions from our leaders we would not have a program to offer the youth of St. Andrew's.

The last task to complete was fund-raising. In each of the last three years our main fund-raiser has been selling popcorn door to door. The community has been very supportive of our group. Without such support, it would be very difficult to fund our many activities. Through our fund-raising activities we have also been able to purchase eight large tents and camping equipment so our youth can enjoy the outdoors.

In our first two years we started with two sections: Beavers for youth aged 5-7 years lead by Albert Hartwig and Wolf Cubs for youth aged 8-10 years lead by Hank Bogers. In our third year, we were very pleased to be able to add a Scout section to our group for youth aged 11-14 years with Cliff Samson as our first Scout Leader. Incidentally, Scouting is now a co-ed activity so that both boys and girls may join. We have been very fortunate to

have had many girls participate in our programs and they always fit-in extremely well. In each of the last three years we have recruited over 50 youth and over 10 leaders in our programs.

Our youth are involved in a number of activities and special outings to various locations. Since our groups have acquired camping equipment, our sections have gone on many camping expeditions to St. Malo Provincial Park, Birds Hill Provincial Parks, Spruce Woods Provincial Park and even Skinner's Wet n' Wild.

The Skinner's event was a camp that our group hosted for the groups around Winnipeg. The public was invited to attend also, to see what Scouting is all about. At night we had our traditional campfire and mug-up (Hot Chocolate) as well as stories, skits and even fire works. During the day we had many displays and activities such as rope making, lashing and even rock climbing. It was great to see all the tents and campsites set up at Skinner's and I'm sure everyone who attended left with many positive memories and new friendships.

All of our sections participate in an activity where they get to make their own car, truck, or boat and then race their creation against other youth members. The Beavers make boats that they race in the water or Beaver Buggies that they race on a track. Cubs make Kub Kars out of a block of wood and then race their cars in a Kub Kar Derby. The Kub Kars must meet stringent length and width requirements and also weight limits. Our oldest youth members, Scouts, actually made semi-trailer trucks that they raced against each other. Those 18 wheelers sure could move! All of our youth members are taught survival skills, which is probably one of the more important skills we can teach them especially if they ever become lost or stranded. Beavers are taught to Hug-a-Tree so that they don't go running around and make it even more difficult to find them. Cubs and Scouts make their own survival kits and learn how to make a fire to keep warm or to build a snow shelter such as a Quinzhee in the winter months.

We believe the Scouting program has had a positive influence on all the youth members and leaders that have so far been a part of 1st St. Andrews on the Red. The unsung heroes of our program are definitely our leaders who come to meetings to give of themselves and also their time so that they can help the young people of St. Andrew's achieve their full potential in our community.

This article is dedicated to all past, present and future members of the Scouting Movement in St. Andrew's.

Remember ALWAYS BE PREPARED!



Captain Kennedy House – River Road.

Captain Kennedy Tea House and Museum by Linda Larter

Captain Kennedy Tea House and Museum located at 417 River Road, began in 1984 when a partnership was struck between Manitoba Natural Resources and St. Andrew's Anglican Church Women (A.C.W.). In the early 1980's a Federal and Provincial Agreement for Recreation and Conservation (A.R.C.) gave Kennedy house ownership to Manitoba Natural Resources to oversee the museum and grounds as a tourist stop along the Red River Corridor. The A.C.W. were approached to start-up and manage a Tea Room that would help draw people to the site. The A.C.W. would also benefit from the partnership by using the Tea Room as a fund-raising vehicle. In 1984 a group of women from the St. Andrew's Anglican church did what they do best and worked together to set up, supply and manage a unique Tea Room. It was fitting that the St. Andrew's Anglican church should be connected with Captain Kennedy's house as Captain William Kennedy, his wife Eleanor and their two children, William and Mary were active, integral members of St. Andrew's church and he was laid to rest in the St. Andrew's church cemetery.

After an active, adventurous life and career as a Hudson Bay fur trader, a sailor, an Arctic explorer, and a missionary he came to settle on his father's, Alexander Kennedy's and his mother's, Aggathas Kennedy's property. William and Eleanor lived in the log cabin that his parents built until 1866 when they began quarrying stone from the Red River. They called their new home "The Maples". While living in the Red River Settlement the Captain also added magistrate, Justice of the Peace, first person to deliver mail from Toronto to Red River and lob-

byist for the annexation of Rupert's Land to Canada to his list of accomplishments.

After William Kennedy's death in 1890 Eleanor had financial difficulties and had to sell the house and move to Virden. She sold the house to John Reid, whose family retained ownership of the house until 1909 when they sold it. J. E. McAllister bought it at this time, renamed the house "Dun Allister" and his family remained there for 37 years. In 1946 Cecil St. Elmo Evenden purchased the house. Dr. Edward Shaw bought the house in 1968. Dr. Shaw renamed the house "Red River House" and turned part of the house into a museum. He had ownership until the 1980's when it was acquired by A.R.C. and ownership given to Manitoba Natural Resources.

The house has been altered internally throughout the years but is now decorated and furnished to the period when the Kennedy's lived at "The Maples". The outside of the house still retains its Gothic Revival architecture that made this house stand out for its craftsmanship, durability and style. The Tea House that has been added on is a glassed in porch and compliments the architecture of the house. The grounds have been terraced with rock gardens, a pond and shrubs in the English garden style.



Captain Kennedy House Museum Gardens.

Great West Van Conversions Inc.

Great West Van Conversions Inc. was started in St. Andrew's, MB by Martin Geurts in October, 1976 and incorporated in March, 1984. Since its inception Martin Geurts has been the sole shareholder of Great West Van Conversions Inc. Great West Van was started as a custom conversion company operating from a single leased bay. The original business involved conversion work performed on vehicles owned by private individuals. Private owners would bring in their vehicles for all manner of custom conversions from "show vehicles" with

plush interior upholstery and exterior modifications to functional service vehicles and "camper" vans. The initial business also included a wide variety of parts sales, installations and service.

In 1985 a decision was made to expand the business away from the retail and into wholesale and distribution. To grow, a larger and more efficient facility was required and land was purchased for a new facility at the corner of Hwy #8 and Hwy #27.

Construction of the first phase of the new facility was completed in 1986 and development of new products for distribution through a dealer network was begun.

By 1987 Great West Van Conversions Inc. has been concentrating only on the manufacturing of high end Class "B" motorhomes. These luxury units are available fully equipped with every living convenience from hot water and shower, to micro-wave, generator and solar power, plus all the travel conveniences including power seats and air ride suspension. Distribution of Great West Van motorhomes includes North America, Europe and Japan. Although multi-national in terms of distribution, all units are engineered, built and shipped from the factory in St. Andrew's, Manitoba, Canada.

The factory has been expanded several times and now the main building and others includes almost 30,000 square feet on seven acres of land. Direct and indirect employment now includes approximately 60-70 people plus. The factory itself is a modern efficient building designed for production efficiency with the inclusion of overhead tracking, pit and hoist areas as well as independent wood-working, upholstery and sub-assembly areas. The scheduling, production, purchasing and inventory control are computerized functions run by a customized MRP system installed in 1995. The computerization of these functions has enabled Great West Van Conversions Inc. to prepare for future expansion, increased production and additional markets.

Great West Van Conversions Inc. is a progressive company that believes we live in the age of the "global economy". With Internet communications and web site distribution of information new world markets are within reach. The future plans include new products as well as many potential market areas including the Middle East!

Larters at St. Andrews Golf and Country Club

by Teri Clegg

The largest golf course in the municipality is situated in the southern part of the municipality, parallel to the Red River.

The eighteen hole Larters at St. Andrews Golf and Country Club opened on August 29, 1991. The par 71 course is approximately 6600 yards long and sits on 126 acres of land. In addition to the eighteen holes the course also features a driving range. The clubhouse overlooks the Red River and consists of a Pro Shop, dining room, lounge and banquet facilities. Larters at St. Andrews is the only golf course in Manitoba with both airport and docking facilities. The land that the course is situated on was previously owned by the daughters, Margaret and Kathleen Larter, of the late Free Larter.

Free Larter emigrated from England to Canada in 1892. He settled on Lot 11 River Road and established a good life for his family and himself. He loved the beauty of the land and never wanted his land to be developed. He always wanted his land to stay green.

Years after Free Larter and his wife passed on, two of his daughters, Margaret and Kathleen wanted to do something to the land to prevent it from becoming a residential subdivision. Phil Riese approached the sisters with the idea of a golf course, which would keep the land "green" the way that their father wanted it to stay. The Larter sisters agreed to donate the 72 acres of land that their father used to farm, then estimated at over \$1,000,000, to the Rural Municipality of St. Andrews. They donated the land in memory of their father.

The Larter sisters donated 65% of the land needed to build the golf course. Phil Riese then purchased two adjoining pieces of land and the Rural Municipality of St. Andrews agreed to the use of fourteen acres of Public Reserve that was lying along River Road.

An agreement was signed on September 16, 1986 stating that the title of the land for the next 21 years would be held by the Rural Municipality of St. Andrews. There was also a bill signed by the municipality stating that the land must remain "green" in perpetuity. The Larter sisters only agreed to donate the land if this bill was produced.

Four main owners plus forty-nine shareholders own the golf course. The four owners are; Phil Riese, realtor, a company named S.E.R.D.C, Oscar Bonne, manager of Mutual Life Assurance CO., and Peter Ewart, golf professional. These four own 51% of the Golf and Country Club, while the remaining forty-nine shareholders each purchased a share for \$25,000 each, giving each purchaser a one percent share in the course. These remaining forty-nine shares were sold to cover any remaining costs for building the course and clubhouse. Together, Margaret and Kathleen purchased one of the shares.