

## "BOMBERSPIEL"

The Flin Flon Reunion Bomberspiel started in the minds of two former Flinonians: Hugh Spencer, a teacher in Guelph and Laurie Craddock, a Cambridge businessman. While musing over a couple of libations in the summer of 1978 they conceived the idea of a weekend reunion of ex-Flinonians of whom there were many residing in and about Ontario. Joined by Bill Hamilton, an Oakville banker and Charlie Goldsmith, a University professor in Hamilton, the plans evolved into a one-time get together at the Guelph Curling Club. Hugh was an active member there and he made arrangements for the use of all their facilities: 8-sheets of curling ice, bar, lounge, dining and catering service.

Starting with a mailing list of 30, the word soon spread quickly and by opening night there were 128 curlers and partygoers present and raring to go.

The first Bomberspiel was such a roaring success that plans were made to make it an annual affair. Soon committees were at work: Communication, Decorating, Gambling,

Curling, Entertainment, Prizes, etc.

Ad hoc committee meetings took place early each New Year. Twenty or thirty would gather at various homes for planning and of course partying and feasting. The hostess for the year would contact others to "Bring this or Bring that as well as BYOB" Bob Lalonde and Ed Loeprich were renowned for their Caesar Salads.

A format soon developed that proved so successful it lasted through twenty-years.

Friday afternoon of the scheduled weekend, the Early Birds started to arrive and decorated the lounge and the partying began and often continued into the wee hours of Saturday.

Saturday morning there was a full breakfast served at the rink complete with Screwdrivers and Bloody Marys. Bill Hamilton, the Drawmaster announced the make-up of the individual rinks (teams), the point scoring system and the DRAW – Who would play against WHO. For the first few years a Calcutta betting system was in vogue and later it became a Pari-mutuel means to wager your spare cash. Keith & Sue Taylor and Jack & Val Norman ran the betting table, calculated the odds and made the eventual payouts.

There were two-six end games played followed by a four-end final involving the four highest scoring rinks. There was always a delicious lunch served and an hour of entertainment by the likes of Maurice Roche and Percy Loutit at the piano, the Bomberspiel Chorus and various others. The Chorus was the product of Ron and Jean Price. Each year they took a Broadway tune and reset the words to fit this special occasion and memories of Old Flin Flon. The singing group was made up of any and all that could carry a tune. Jean at the piano rode herd on them like a military Sergeant Major.

Following the curling finals everyone took a break and headed for their hotels to dress for the evening. Always a superb cocktail hour, banquet dinner, awards and prize presentations, more Bomber Chorus and entertainers and dancing to the wee hours.

Highlighting some of the entertainment brings to mind performances by Sister Catherine Roche who arrived one afternoon in full nuns habit and using a pair of crutches. I met her at the door unsure for the moment just who she was. When she introduced herself of course I knew then who she was. I'd gone to school with her younger sister Elizabeth and her brother Maurice was on the ice curling. I escorted to a rinkside seat and asked if I could get her some refreshment. "*A double rye-on-the-rocks. Thank you.*" She enjoyed several through the afternoon and that evening, leaning on her crutches and strumming a guitar, she sang all 10 verses of, "*Frankie & Johnny*"

Years later we enjoyed a repeat performance by "Sister Catherine's Sister" artfully presented in drag by our fabulous MC, Laurie Craddock. Jim Brough who was musical director for the RCMP played and sang. Jamie McIntosh brought roars of applause and tears to our eyes with his renditions especially so with his version of "Lucille." For two years Dr. Pete and Rita Premachuk hosted the appearance of "The Sonyashnyk Dancers", a highly skilled and beautifully dressed Ukrainian Dance Troupe.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> April 1982 at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual, the former Lt. Governor of Manitoba, our own Bud Jobin, led the whole crowd in the singing of "Oh Canada". This was the day of the Official Repatriation of Canada's Constitution.

Curlers and visitors came from far and wide. Real old-timers Sam Hankin, Howard & Mary Black, John and Vera Spencer, Ruth Goldsmith, Bal & Dot Biggs, Poddy Davie, Jim Goodman, to name just a few graced us with their presence.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual was a special event. All assembled in a theatre in the Holiday Inn for a slide and talk show. Simulated voices from the past: R.H Channing, Sid Hudson, J.B Kines, Ivan Hamilton and many others highlighted pictures of the earlier days in Ole Flin Flon. There were 178 registered attendees. Other years the attendance averaged around 110-135.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual was scheduled as a wind-up event. The same core committee members had served long and hard and were becoming a bit 'long-in-the-tooth.' By this time there were several active curlers that been toddlers at the First Bomberspiel. Special note must be made of Adam Spencer, son of Hugh and Lou, who not only Skipped a winning rink at Bomberspiel but went on to carve a significant niche in Ontario Men's Curling annals.

Throughout the years generous donations of cash and prizes and the excellent management of funds resulted in a significant cash surplus after everything was wound down. At The Flin Flon Homecoming Reunion in 2000, a cheque was presented to The Flin Flon Arts Council in honour of Ron and Jean Price for their dedication to musical presentations both in Flin Flon and Guelph.

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of Kevin Brothers there was a renewal Bomberspiel staged in 2005. While it did not attain the numbers of the original 20, it was great to once again renew old friendships.

There are 20 large photo albums full of great memories. Hopefully they will someday find a home in the Flin Flon Library archives.



WELCOME  
to the  
6<sup>th</sup> annual  
BOMBERSPIEL



**1002503 The Organizing Committee**

**Bill & Dorice Hamilton, Hugh & Lou Spencer,  
Laurie & Karen Craddock, Charlie & Lorraine Goldsmith**

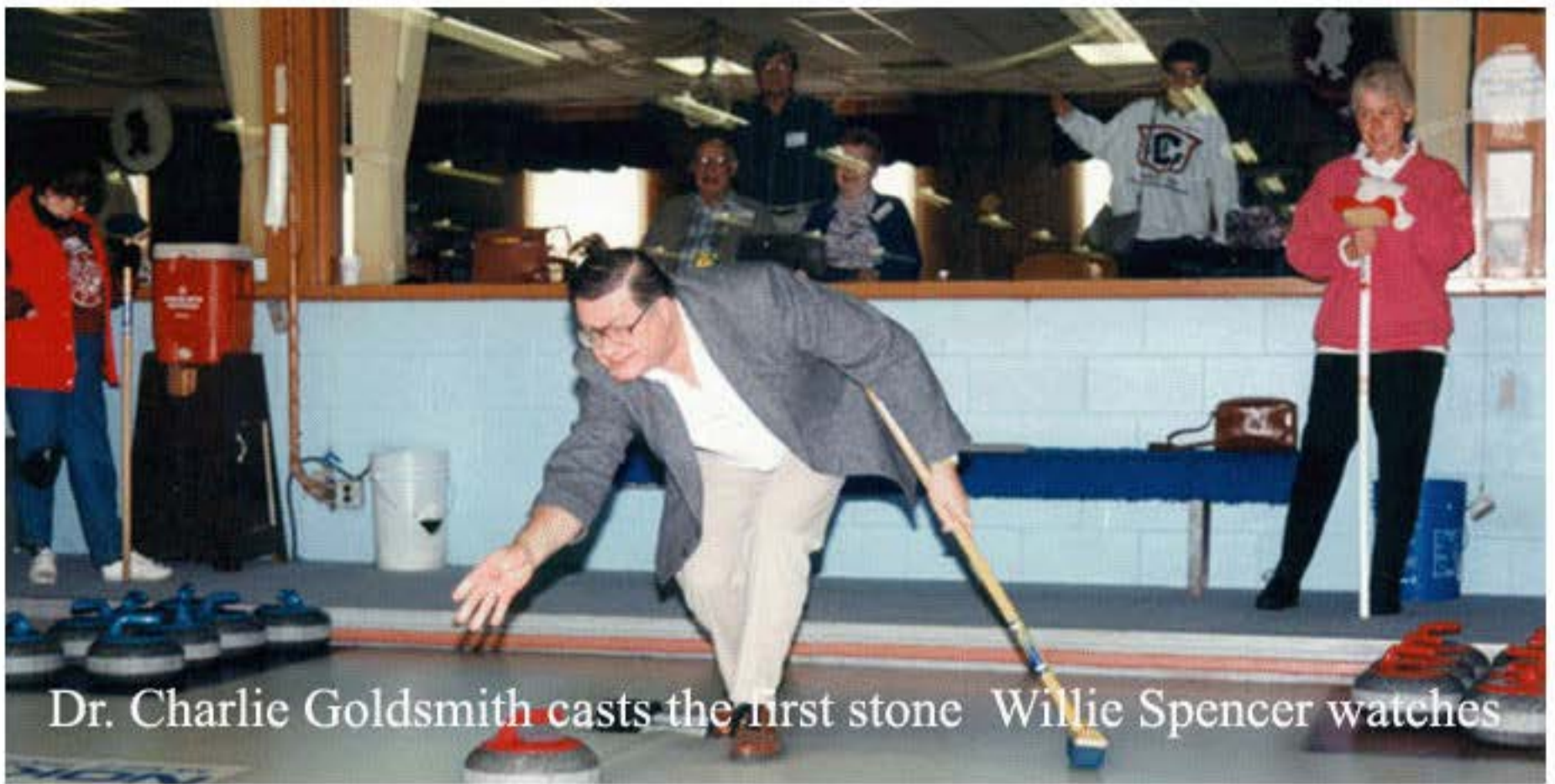


1002504 Bud Jobin leads singing of "O Canada"



Jean Price our Music Leader

1002505 Jean Price our Music Leader



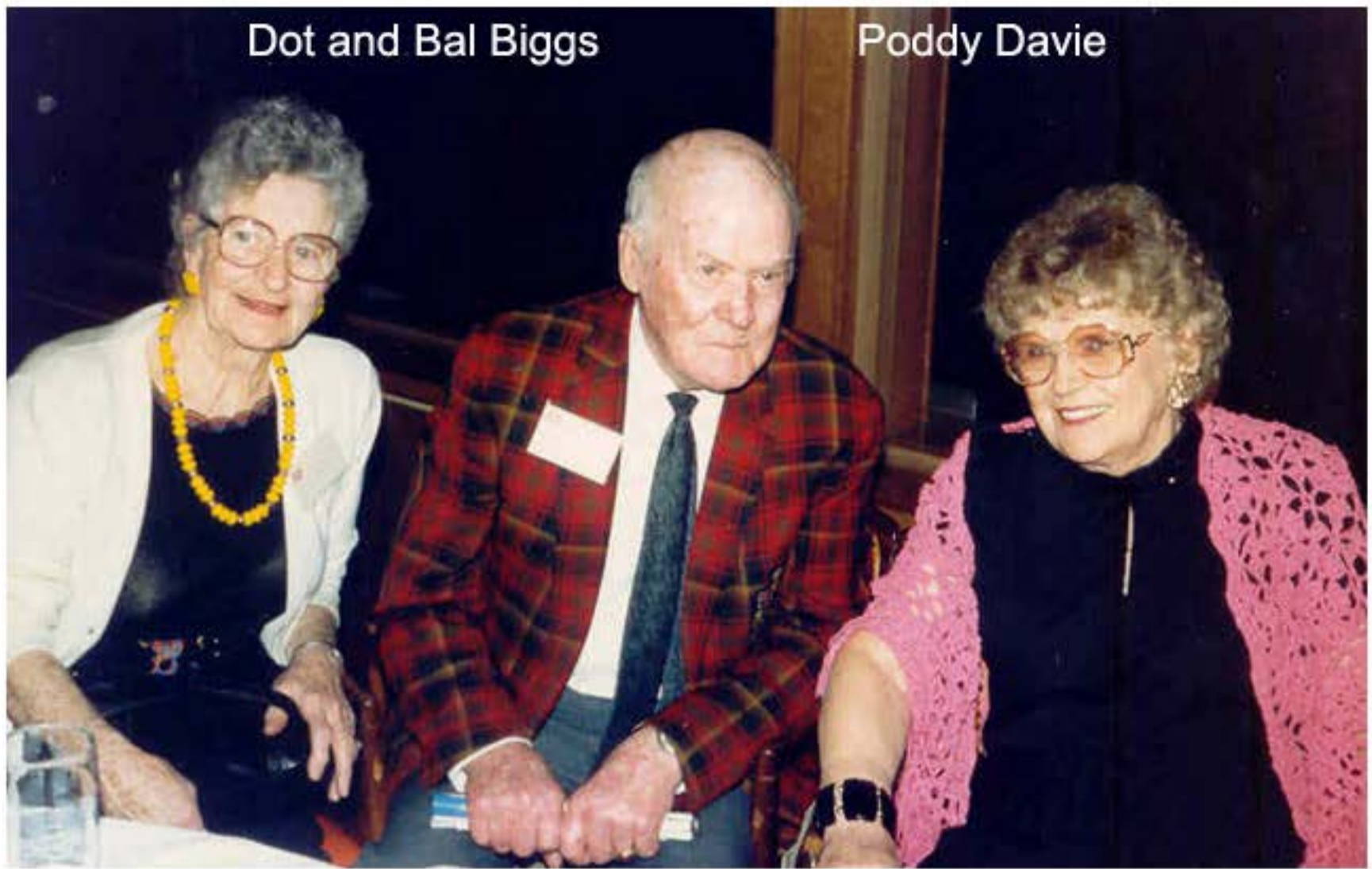
Dr. Charlie Goldsmith casts the first stone Willie Spencer watches

1002506 Dr. Charlie Goldsmith casts the first stone while Willie Spencer watches.



Ethel Dojcak Syl Loeprich Val Norman Dorice Hamilton

1002507 Ethel Dojcak, Sly Loeprich, Val Norman, Dorice Hamilton



Dot and Bal Biggs

Poddy Davie

1002508 Dot and Bal Biggs, Poddy Davie



Ron Price  
on Bush Bass

Jean Price

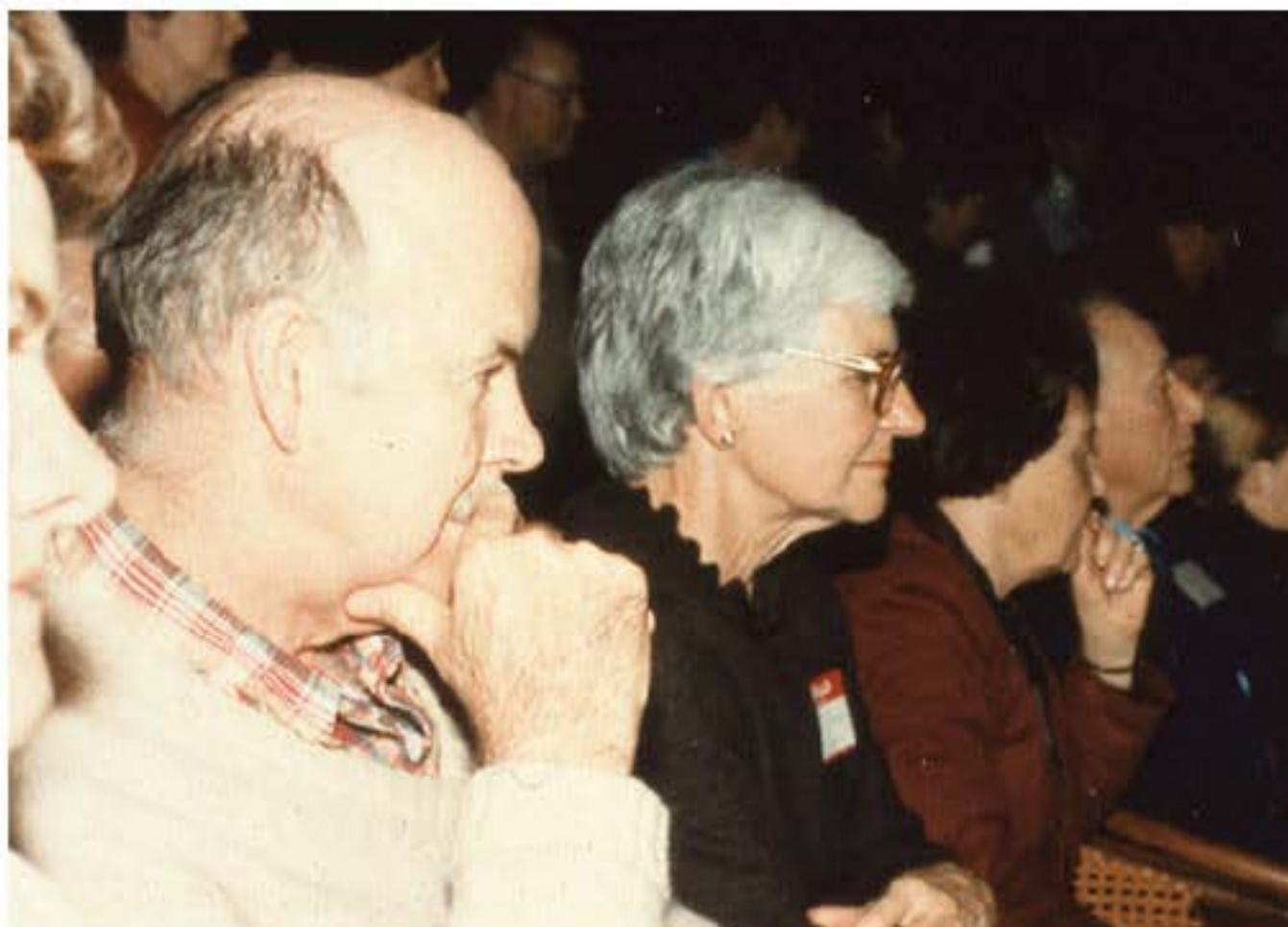
1002509 Rob Proce on Bush Bass, Jean Price



1002510 Ross & Gladys Lennox, 1996



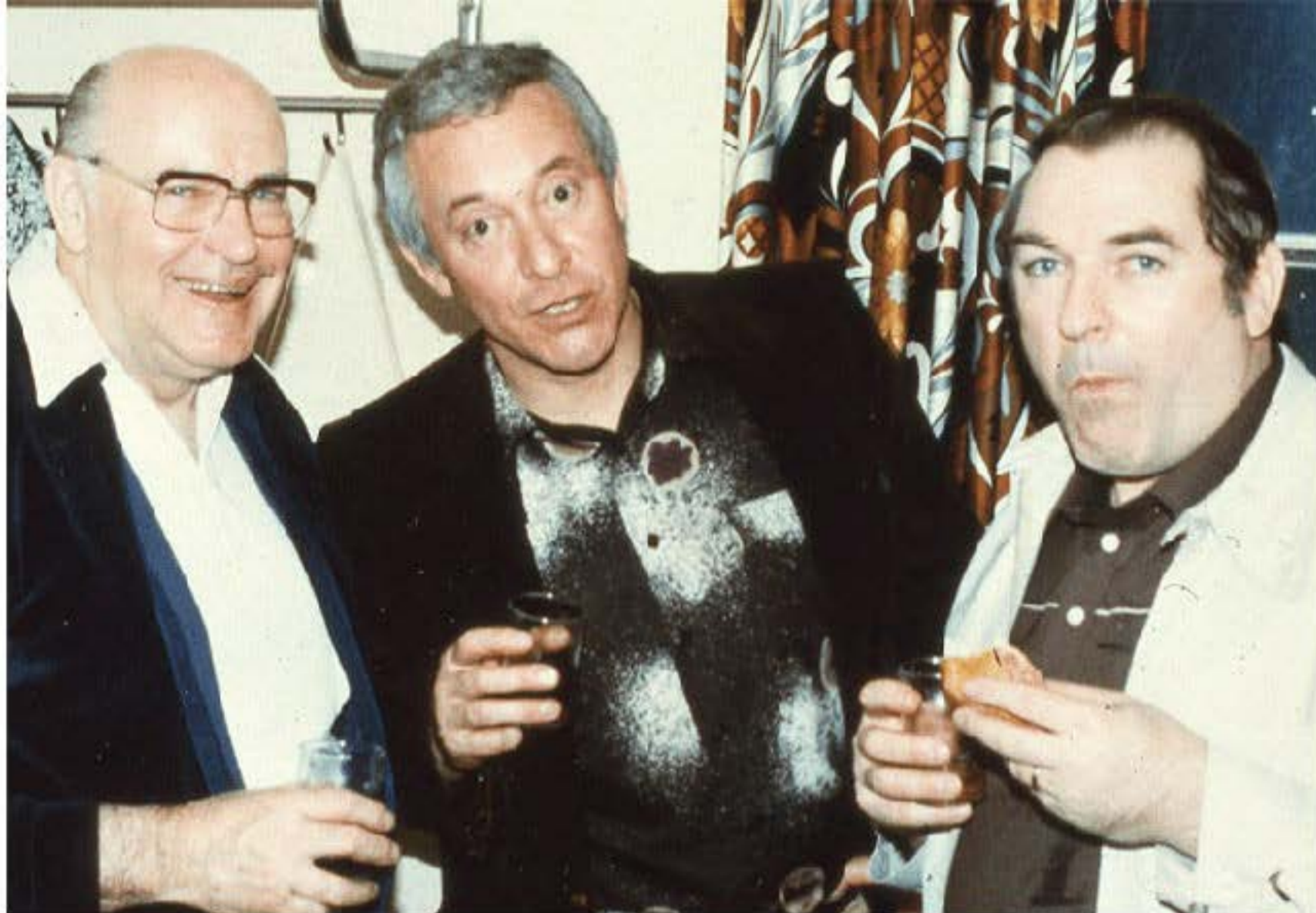
1002511 "This is HOW I want it sung!"  
Laurie Craddock, Jean Price, Ron Price



1002512 Gordon & Marion Bragg



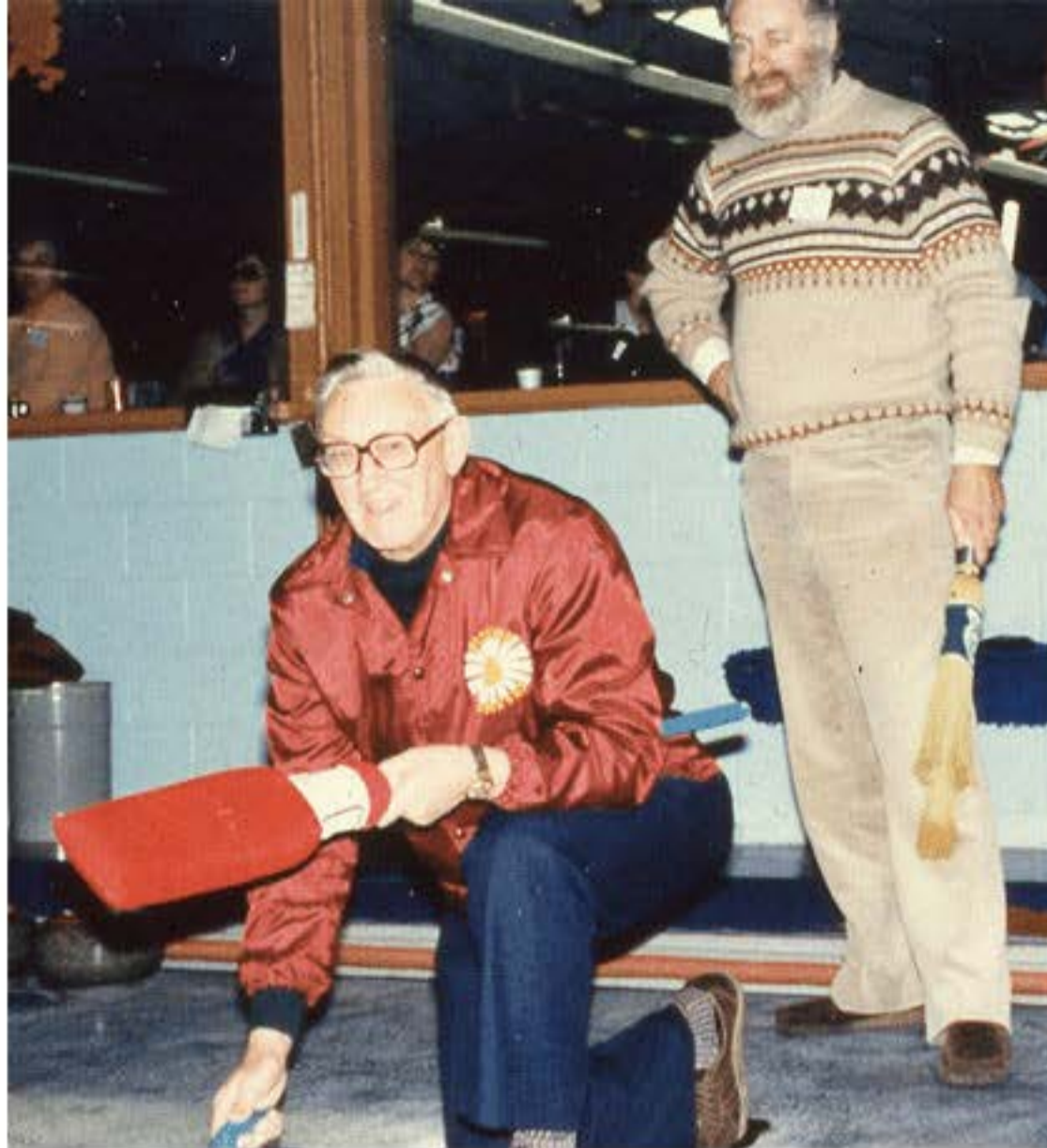
1002513 Norma Orvis (Duncan), Sue Taylor,  
Phyllis Longmore, Jank Longmore, Keith Smith



1002514 Ron Price, Jack Purvis, Don Locker



1002515 Marilyn McGillvary, Tony Dojcak, Bill McGillvary



1002516 Hec McCaig, and ??



1002517 Don Locker, Keith & Sue Taylor, Jack Norman, Stella Locker, Jack Purvis



1002518



1002519



1002520 Johnny Spencer, Wilf Willis



1002521 Bob Frazer, Terri Dalton (Germaine), Jack Norman



1002522 Jack Norman & Keith Taylor at the betting table



Avonne Horkoff Joan Bidnosti

Pete Premachuk Syl Loeprich

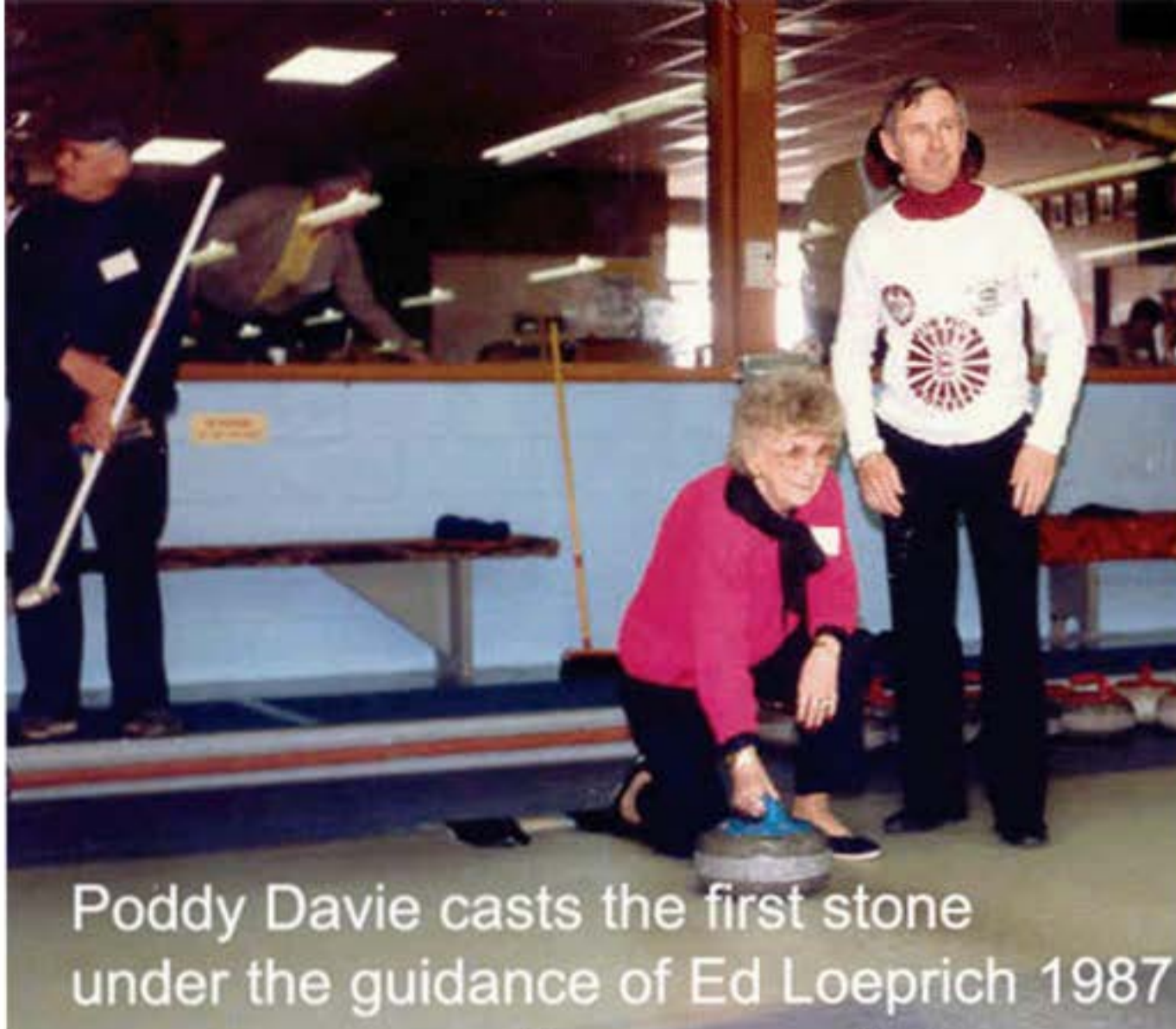
1002523 Avonne Horkoff, Joan Bignosti, Pete Premacuk, Sly Loeprich



1002524 Jan Donaghy Collecting her winnings



1002525 Jack Purvis, Jamie McIntosh



Poddy Davie casts the first stone  
under the guidance of Ed Loeprich 1987

1002526 1987 - Poddy Davie casts the first stone  
under the guidance of Ed Loeprich



Ed Loeprich

Bob Lalonde

Salad Chefs 1991

1002527 1991 - Salad Chefs Ed Loeprich and Bob Lalonde



1002528 (back) ??, Hugh Spencer, (middle) Jack Purvis, Bev & Bob Lalonde  
(fron) Laurie Craddock



Jack Norman

Al and Donna

Sunday morning brunch

1002529 Sunday morning brunch: Jack Norman, Al & Donna Craig



Ruth & Dick Berthiaume

1002530 Dick & Ruth Berthiaume



Four Old Bombers

Bob Lalonde

Hec McCaig

Bob Seguin

Doug Orvis

Lalonde, Hec McCaig, Bob Seguin, Doug Orvis



Sonyashnyk Ukranian Dance Troupe

1002532 Sonyashnyk Ukranian Dance troupe



"More Empfassis on the  
Syl-Abb-bul!"

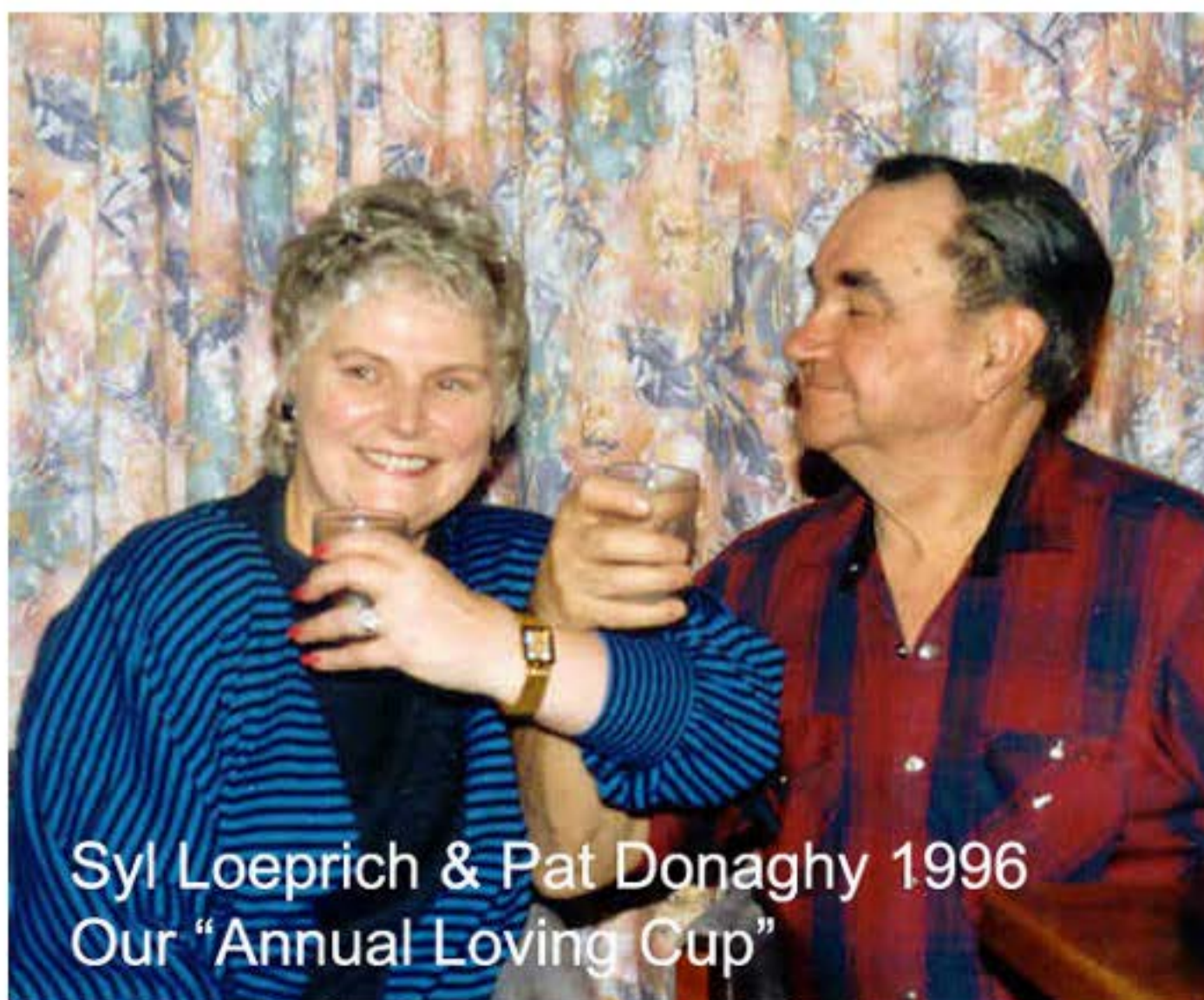
1002533 "More Empfassis on the Syl-Abb-bul"



Avonne Horkoff Joan Bidnosti

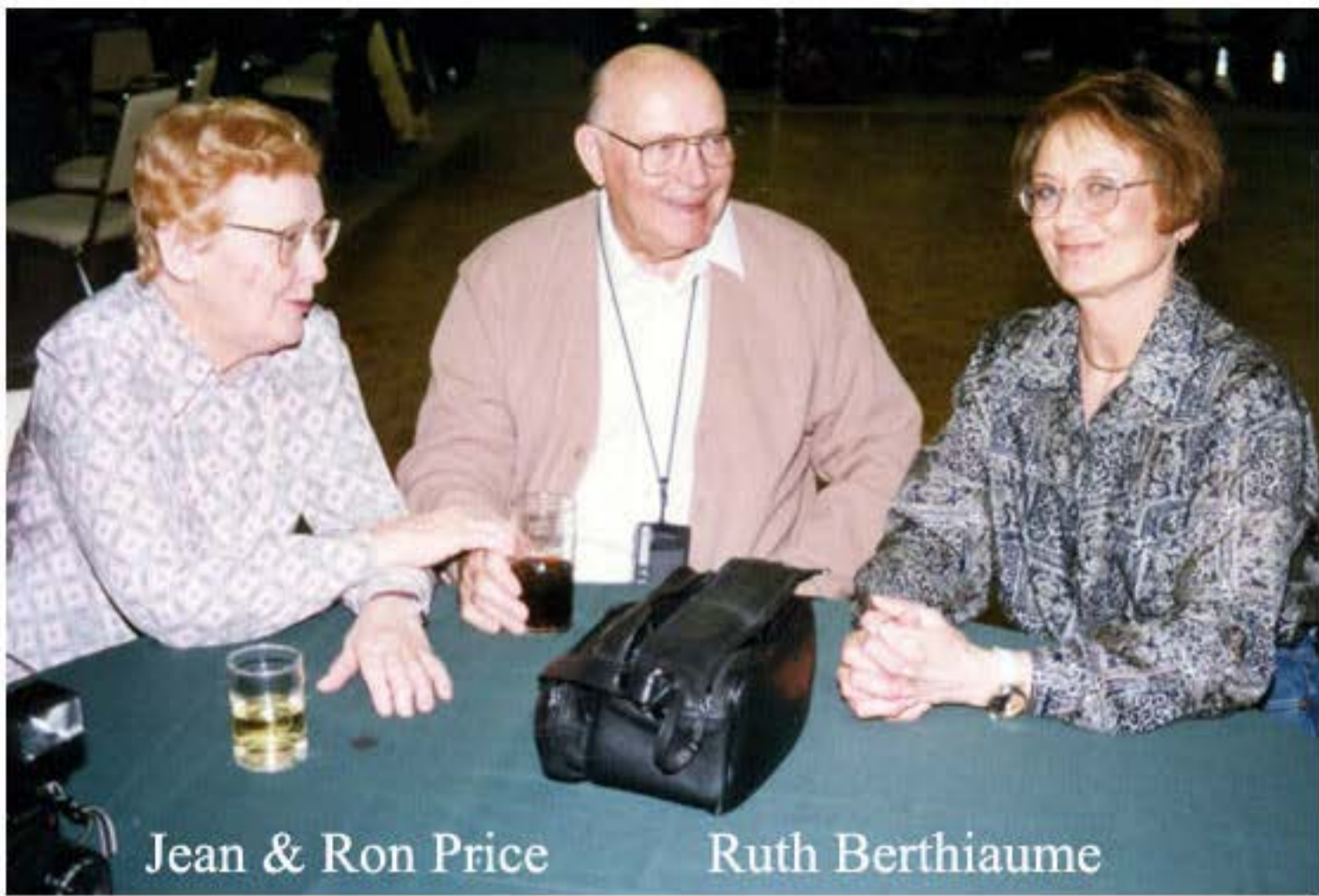
Pete Premachuk Syl Loeprich

1002534 Avonne Horkoff, Joan Bidnosti, Pete Premachuk, Syl Loeprich



Syl Loeprich & Pat Donaghy 1996  
Our "Annual Loving Cup"

1002535 1996 - Syl Loeprich & Pat Donaghy , our "Annual Loving Cup."



Jean & Ron Price

Ruth Berthiaume

1002536 Jean & Roy Price, Ruth Berthiaume



Jan & Pat host Committee Meeting 1992

1002537 1992 - Jan & Pat Donaghy host a committee meeting



Peter Norman, Jenny Sweeney, Jean Stevenson, Keith Taylor

1002538 Peter Norman, Jenny Sweeney, Jean Stevenson, Keith Taylor



Norma and Doug Orvis

1002539 Norma and Doug Orvis



Maurice Roche

Jan Donaghy

1002540 Maurice Roch, Pat Donaghy



Ross Lennox

Keith & Sue Taylor

Gladys Lennox

1002541 Ross Lennox, Keith & Sue Taylor, Gladys Lennox



1002542 Enid Purvis, Don Locker



1002543 Ice Worms  
Bill & Onalee Bevans, Donna Marshall, Pat Donaghy



1002544 Doug Purvis, Punchie McCaig, Norma Orvis



1002545 Stella Locker, Jack Purvis



1002546 Nancy Johnson, Hugh Spencer, Howie Beswatherick,  
Karen Craddock



1002547 Don Craig, Jack Longmore



1002548 Bill & Onalee Bevans, Dorice Hamilton, Reg Johnson,  
Jan Donaghy  
(front) Percy & Lila Loutit



1002549 Keith & Sue Taylor, Dr. Pete Premachuk



1002550 Sister Catherine Roche



Sister Catherine's  
Sister

1002551 Sister Catherine's Sister



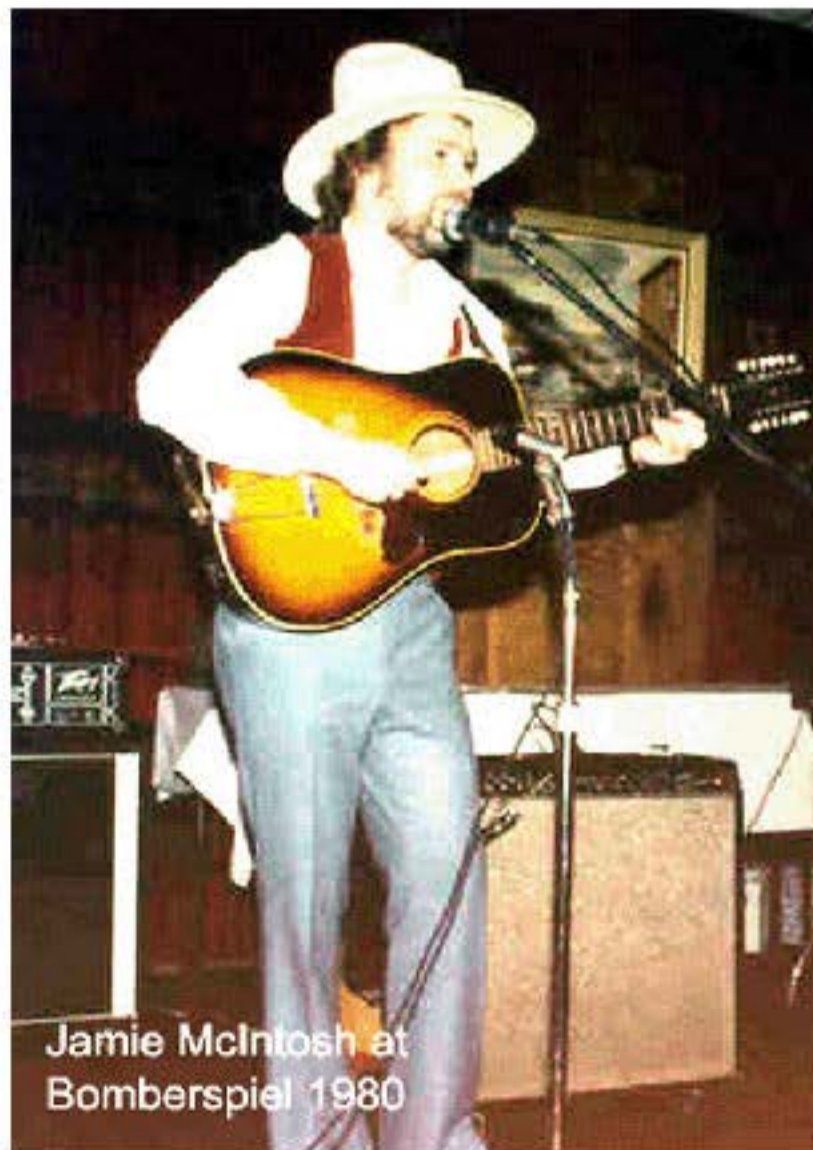
1002552



1002553



1002554 Reg Johnson



Jamie McIntosh at  
Bomberspiel 1980

1002555 1980 - Jamie McIntosh



1002556 Bomberspiel Chorus



1002557 Bomberspiel Chorus



1002558 Keith Taylor, Bob & Betty Frazer, Elinor & Bob Sadler, Hugh Spencer, Laurie Craddock



1002559 Champs: Bob Sadler (on the right) presenting the HBM&S trophy to (on the left) Jamie MacIntosh, Gail (Goldstrand) MacIntosh, Lou Spencer, Bill & Dorice Hamilton,



1002560 (back) Bill & Donna Marshall  
(front) Phyllis & Jack Longmore, Marion & Wilf Willis



1002561 Jean & Ron Price



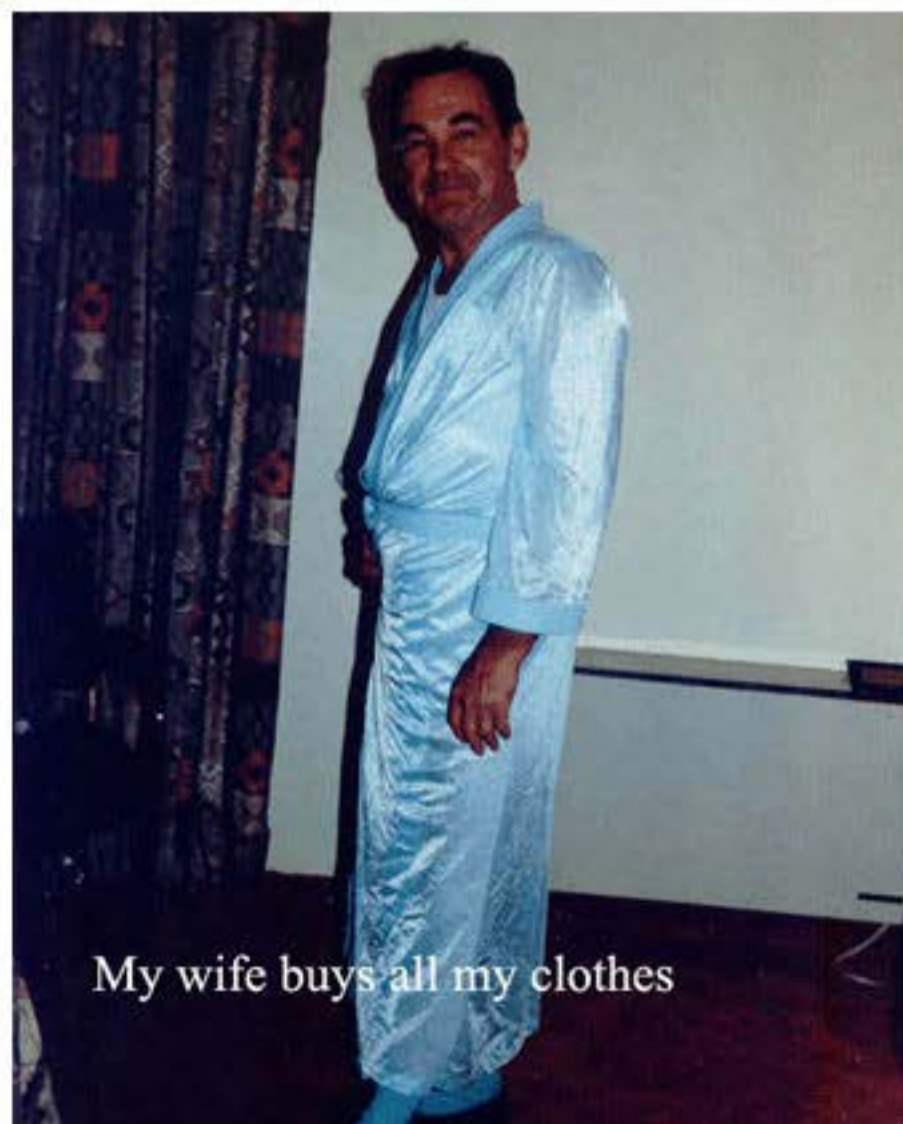
1002562 Hugh Spencer, Pat Donaghy, Donna Craig, Ed Leoprich



1002563 Lila Loutit, Marian Willis, Isabelle Ketchen



1002564 a comedy act



1002565 Pat Donaghy; "My wife buys all my clothes."



1002566 Sue Taylor checking out the "Guess Who?" board



1002567 Prize table



1002568 Bomberspiel Chorus



1002569 Dr. Bal Biggs, ??, Sam Hankin, ??



1002570 Karen & Laurie Craddock, Hugh & Lou Spencer



1002571 Jim Brough



Pat Donaghy, Jean Stevenson, Al Craig, Bob Stevenson

1002572 Pat Donaghy, Jean Stevenson, Al Craig, Bob Stevenson



Jean Price our Music Leader

1002573 Jean Price, out music leader



1002574 Bomberspiel Chorus



1002575 ??, Reg Johnson



K. Taylor, Paul Amato, Tony Dojcak, Kent Murray Norrie Brockest

1002576 Keith Taylor, Paul Amato, Tony Dojcak,  
Kent Murray, Norrie Brockest



1002577 Marilyn McGilvary, Bill McGilvary



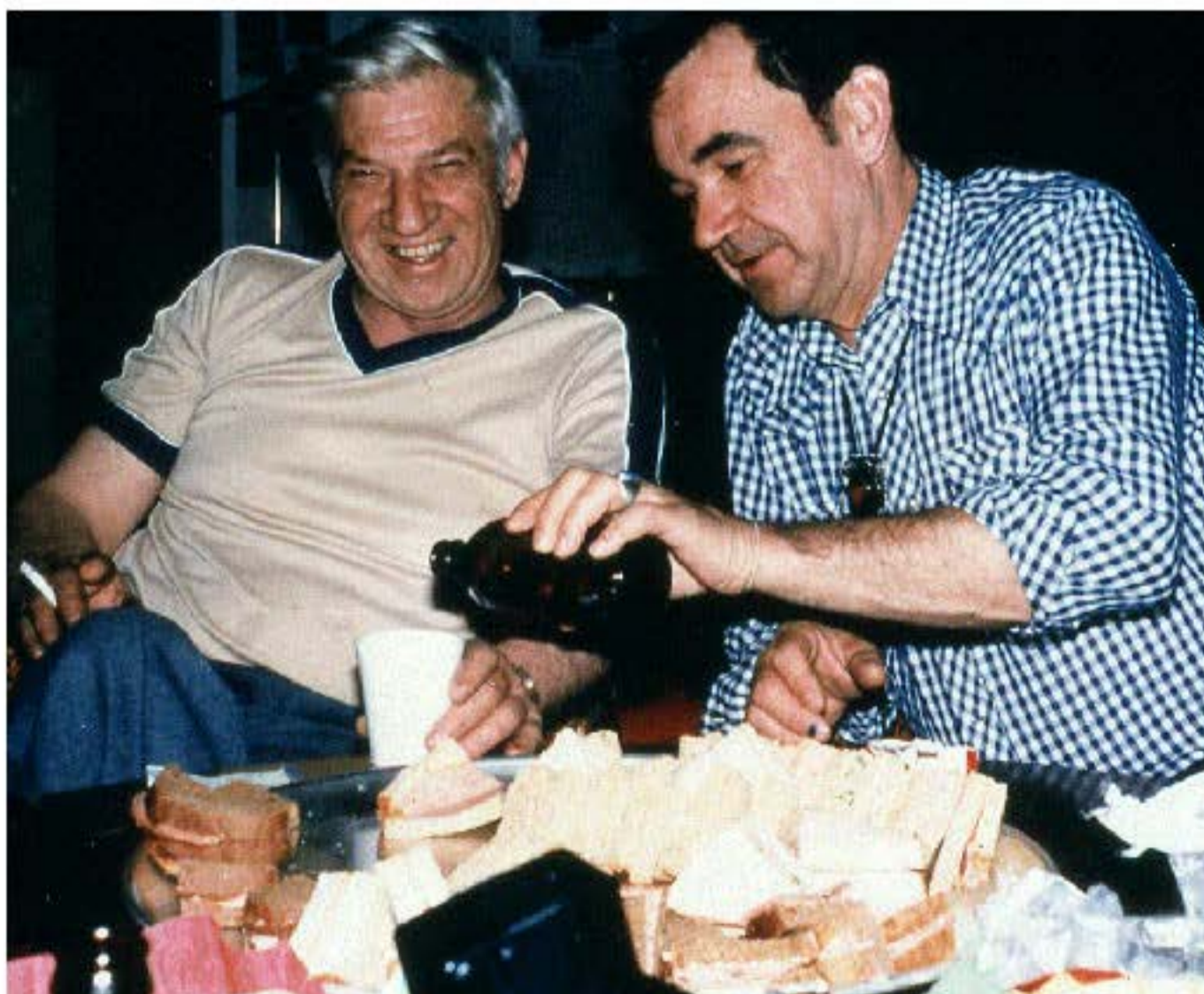
1002578 Helen Searle, Ethel & Tony Dojcak, Al & Zelda Forshaw,  
Doris Searle, Jim Searle



1002579 Laurie Craddock



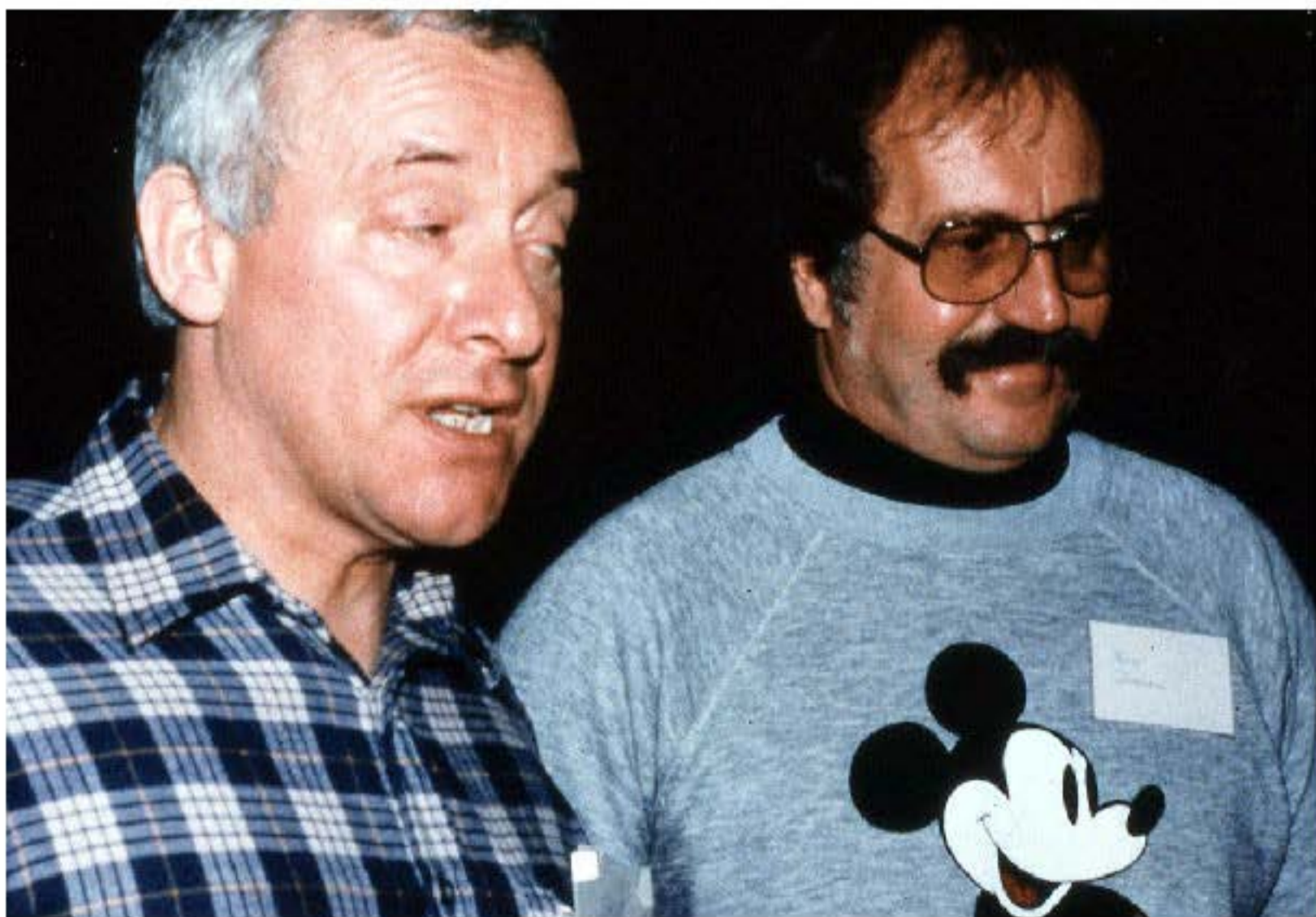
1002580 Mary Burrows and Gerry Sweeney



1002581 Glen Jeffrey, Pat Donaghy



1002582 Dorice Hamiton, Al Craig



1002583 Jack Purvis, Reg Johnson



1002584 Judy Huber, Wilf Willis, Pat Donaghy, Al Craig



1002585 ??, Donna Marshall, Bill Bevans



1002586 Kevin Brothers, ??, Rita Premachuk, Keith Taylor, Ross Lennox



1002587 Jack Norman, Frank and Greta Dembinsky  
(names confirmed by Davilyn Dembinsky)



1002588 Bomberspiel Chorus



1002589 Chorus Director Sgt-Major Jean Price



1002590 Keith Taylor, Hugh Spencer, Pat Donagh y,  
Donna Craig, Ed Leoprich



1002591 ??, Zelda Forshaw, Kent Murray, Bob Lalonde, Al Craig,  
Keith Taylor, Hugh Spencer



1002592 Percy Loutit, Donna Marshall



1002593 Hugh Spencer, Earl Watson



1002594 Vivian Barker, Jack Purvis, ??, Hugh Spencer



1002595 Keith Taylor, Jack Norman, Frank Dembinsky



1002596 Doug Orvis, Fred Norman, Dorice Hamilton



1002597 Pat Donaghy, Jean Stevenson, Al Craig, Bob Stevenson



1002598 Drawmaster Bill Hamilton and helpers



1002599 Wilf Burrows, Jenny Sweeney, Mary Burrows



1002600 ??, Ross Lennox, Ed Leoprich, ??, Doug Orvis, ??, Dorice Hamilton



1002601 Bob Frazer, Jack Norman, Keith Taylor, Terri (Germaine) Dalton



1002602 Bomberspiel Chorus



Jean & Ron Price

1002603 Jean & Ron Price



1002604 Keith Smith, Norma Orvis, Pat (Lowe) Smith, Ross Wren,  
Donna Craig, Al Craig, Enid Purvis,  
Doug Orvis, Leone (Clarkson) Wren, Jack Purvis