

CHAPTER 29

*Memories of
Friars Briar 2007*

March 5 – 9
Hamilton Ontario



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Friars' Briar 2007 Glendale Curling Club Hamilton Ontario

The Organizing Committee

The All Ontario Clergy Curling Coordinating Committee assumed leadership for organizing the 2007 Friars' Briar. This decision had significant benefits. By using an organizational structure already in place, the organizing committee was able to get to work quickly. It had a good a pool of combined resources in the seven Ontario clergy curling clubs. Sharing the work lightened the burden of responsibility for the local club. As the planning moved ahead, a deepened sense of camaraderie grew within the committee.

Chair: Bonnie Cole Arnal

Co-Chair/Registrar: John Clinton

Treasurer: Peter Moore

Secretary: Barbara Pettit

Draw Master: Bob Sim

Members: Phil Cline, Harry Klassen, David Martin, Maurice Martin, Arch McCurdy, Doug McKenzie, John Robertson, Jeff Smith



The Facility

The Friars' Briar was held at the Glendale Golf and Country Club at 401 Mount Albion Road in Hamilton. This facility provided six sheets of ice and good lounge space for off ice relaxation. The management and staff provided excellent hospitality and worked hard to minimize any disruptions from on-site renovations.

Accommodations



Area hotels offered group discounts and bed and breakfast was available at the Mount Mary Retreat Centre.

Sponsors

- FaithLife Financial
- Arthur B Ridley Funeral Home Ltd.
- Battlefield Graphics
- Burkert Fluid Control Systems
- FMC Marine and The Knotical Shop
- G.H. Hogle Funeral Home Limited
- George Darte Funeral Home
- Holiday Inn Express Hamilton - Stoney Creek
- Lakeside Logistics
- Patrick J. Darte Funeral Chapel
- P. X. Dermody Funeral Homes
- The Ontario Curling Association
- TNJ Consulting
- York Region Trophy & Promotion Ltd
- Hamilton Clergy Curling Club
- All Ontario Clergy Curling Coordinating Committee

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Opening Luncheon and Ceremonies

Friars Briar 2007 officially opened with a Tuesday luncheon. Andrea Horwath, an area M.P.P., brought greetings from the province of Ontario. Hamilton mayor, Fred Eisenberger, conveyed greetings by letter. FaithLife Financial representatives, Anne Bruce and Jim McDermont, were introduced and spoke briefly.

Following lunch, celebrity curler Todd Brandwood was introduced. In the 2000 Brier he was vice on the Peter Corner rink. He continues to curl competitively and with his wife Stacey, coaches young women curlers. After lunch Todd Brandwood threw the ceremonial opening rock and the Friars' Briar 2007 teams were piped onto the ice.

The Teams

Apostles:

Patrick Baska, Jim Corrigan, Paul Moret, Martin Carroll (Alberta)

Siegfried Wall, Dave Winter, Teenie Wall, Anne Winter (Manitoba)

Barbara Pettit, Gerry Hofstetter, Bonnie Cole Arnal, Peter Moore (Ontario)

Jeff Learmonth, Kellie McComb, Mark Winger, Ted Martin (Ontario)

Phil Cline, Michael Mandloch, David Duffus, Caroline Duffus (Ontario)

John Robertson, Wayne Brown, Blanche Robertson, Anne Bruce (Ontario)

Evangelists

Guy Scholz, George Budd, Stephen Hambridge, Dan Eagle (Alberta)

David Martin, Maurice Martin, Pam Bartel, Dlemer Epp (Ontario)

John Congram, Doug MacKenzie, Barry Klinck, Bert Foliot (Ontario)

Michael Bird, Herb Frayne, John Clinton, John Zinkie (Ontario)

Reynold Kipfer, Roger Winger, Jim Darlington, Carl Nicklaus (Ontario)

Sid Haugen, Kathy Haugen, Jerry Borkowsky, Clarence Hagen (Saskatchewan)

Miracle Workers

George Friedrich, Philip Hink, Paul Webb, Ken McDonald (Alberta)

Katsumi Imayoshi, Ian Grant, Glen/Mary Ellen Zehr, Sid Philips (British Columbia)

Fraser Muldrew, Dennis Butcher, Amy Butcher, Jim Lawrence (Manitoba)

Arch McCurdy, Cameron Reid, Katherine Brittain, Catherine Hions (Ontario)

Harold Hesje, Dan Skaret, Gene Grant, John Wall (Saskatchewan)

David Hunter, Allan Grundahl, Jack Dyck, Ken Peterson (Saskatchewan)



Round Robin Draw

After the Round Robin the Teams were ordered from 1-18

Championship: Teams 1-8
Intermediate: Teams 9-14
Recreational: Teams 15-18

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Championship

1. Scholz
2. Hesji
3. Muldrew
4. Hunter
5. Wall
6. Cline
7. Congram

Intermediate

9. Haugen
10. Martin
11. Learmonth
12. Friedrich
13. Pettit
14. Bird

Recreational

15. Robertson
16. Imayoshi
17. Kipfer
18. McCurdy



Playoffs

Championship Division

Gold: Guy **Scholz**, George Budd, Stephen Hambridge and Dan Eagle (Alberta)

Silver: Patrick **Baska**, Jim Corrigan, Paul Moret, Martin Carroll (Alberta)

Bronze: Harold **Hesje**, Dan Skaret, Gene Grant, John Wall (Saskatchewan)

- 4th **Congram** Ontario
- 5th **Wall** Manitoba
- 6th **Cline** Ontario
- 7th **Muldrew** Manitoba
- 8th **Hunter** Saskatchewan

Intermediate Division

- 1st **Haugen** Saskatchewan
- 2nd **Martin** Ontario
- 3rd **Learmonth** Ontario
- 4th **Bird** Ontario
- 5th **Pettit** Ontario
- 6th **Friedrich** Alberta

Recreational Division

- 1st **Robertson** Ontario
- 2nd **McCurdy** Ontario
- 3rd **Imayoshi** British Columbia
- 4th **Kipfer** Ontario

Brier Visit

Wednesday evening was booked for a visit to the Tim Horton's Brier at the Copps Coliseum. This provided an opportunity for relaxed fellowship as the Friars cheered on their favourite teams.



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The Banquet

The celebratory banquet for Friars' Briar took place on Thursday evening. The Glendale chefs provided delicious fare for the festive meal enjoyed by Friars and their guests. "No Discernable Key" provided engaging entertainment on a cross-country musical sampling of tunes.

The Annual Meeting

During the Annual Meeting, which followed the banquet, retiring board member Arch McCurdy was honoured for his many years of service as the secretary of the board of directors. He received the Amazing Grace trophy.

Closing Luncheon

Friars' Briar 2007 came to an end with the closing luncheon on Friday. Adding to the festivities was a draw for prizes provided by FaithLife Financial. Medals were presented as follows:

Summary: Buttons, Brooms, Bloopers and Blessings

A Button

The Hamilton FB was one of the best organized spiels in a long list of well organized Friars' Briars. Not only did the Hamilton committee do a first class job but I have seldom seen a Curling Club get so enthusiastically involved as the Glendale Golf and Country Club. Right from the manager to the host and hostesses they provided, to the father-daughter ice making tandem who were terrific with the care they took in prepping the ice. And its nice to see our official sponsor getting involved as partici-

pants in both in Regina and Hamilton - two of the best football towns in North America. They were friendly, servant like and willing to get to know us. I look forward to another Hamilton area Friars' Briar even before the other Brier makes another appearance.

Guy Scholz; Calgary (an okay football town, but a great football town when Gang Green arrives from the near East)

A Broom

There is no need for sweeping changes for future Friars' Briars! However the Friars' Briar 2007 Committee offers this in the way of feedback. Good communication is essential for the success of every Friars' Briar. While there were no major communication gaps, there was a bit of confusion over how ties were to be broken and how the play offs would work. Part of this confusion stemmed from outdated information which appeared on the Friars Briar website.



A Blooper

March 9, 2007. Final Game. Third Event. Score tied. It was the last end and Archie McCurdy, our skip, without the hammer threw his rock through the house. My final rock as third had been

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placed in the rings and was well guarded. John Robertson opposing skip placed his first shot just in front of the rings. Poor Archie, on his final rock, he knocked John's rock into the house, just beating ours. It was not necessary for John to throw his final rock. Final outcome – Robertson's team came in first, McCurdy's rink came in second. The good thing for me at least in the whole week was finding in John Robertson not only a gracious winner, but I hope a good friend. I would give anything to renew our friendship in 2009, and maybe even curl with him. – Cameron Reid

Blessings

I thank the Hamilton and area community for the welcome and support that came from local government, sponsors and media. I thank "No Discernable Key" for its expression of Canadian culture and unity. I thank our national sponsor FaithLife Financial, not only for its support but its participation in our event. I thank Friars' Briar Board for accepting our invitation to host and for its guidance along the way.

Hosting a Friars' Briar is big undertaking and it could not have happened in the way it did without a solid commitment to hard work, a willingness to share resources and an unwavering spirit of cooperation. I take this opportunity to thank my committee for its teamwork.

Finally, I thank all the curlers who came and shared the gift of friendship as we spent a wonderful week together.

Bonnie Cole Arnal, Friars' Briar 2007 Chair

