

Christmas Fete a fun-filled day at curling club

Christmas is a time to be with family and friends and the Christmas Fete at the Middleton Curling Club gave members that opportunity for the whole day on this past Saturday. Early risers came to the club for breakfast and found the rooms had been transformed overnight into a Christmas wonderland. The warm glow of lighted trees and centerpieces reflected off the gold and silver of ornaments and wreaths, while the bake table was crowded with holiday-wrapped goodies and gingerbread fantasies.

Despite the rain outside, there was ice inside and the auction items were on display all day while the Family Fete Funspiel was in progress. This kind of one-day bonspiel is a great favourite with club members because it is open to family and friends as well as club members and the teams are a mixture of league players, seniors, juniors and family members. This is the only time that curlers from all age levels meet each other and play on the same teams. The games are fun, the camaraderie is warm and the Christmas season adds an extra level of enjoyment with the reflection of lights and trees through the glass and the movement of the audience as community members come through to bid on the items on display.

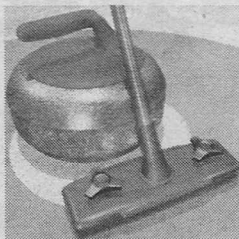
Once the funspiel was over and the prizes were given out – in this kind of bonspiel there are prizes for everyone – the participants and family shared a supper in the dining room while in the ice shed a

Draw to the Button contest was going on. The participants were given a warm-up for each entry and then indicated when the shot they are about to take is to be count-

ed. To get the exact weight and trajectory to land on the button – the centre of the rings in the ice – is extremely difficult without the aid of someone to hold the broom to indicate where to aim. The contest attracted many more participants than anticipated as the prize this year was a piece of custom glassware created with at curling rock in the design by Sal Tully, one of the owners of the Glass House Restaurant and Gallery in Middleton. The winner was a real crowd-pleaser: Colby

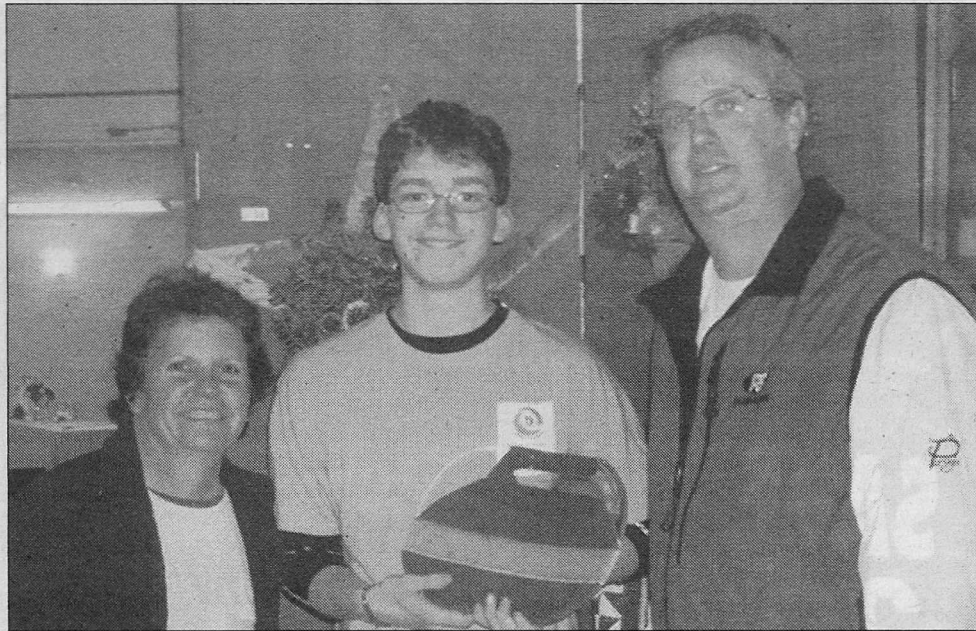
Evans, a member of the club Junior League, who had been in the bonspiel during the day. Colby, who had honed his curling skills at the Whitecap Curling Camp this past summer, is pictured here holding his prize with Sal Tully the creator of the trophy, and Bill Eaton who arranged the draws for the day and ran the contest.

The party atmosphere continued as



Throwing Rocks

Karen Sotvedt
 Middleton
 Curling Club



Colby Evans holding his Draw to the Button prize with Sal Tully, trophy creator, and Bill Eaton who arranged the draws and ran the contest. Contributed photo

many club members and friends attended the draws for the nearly 70 auction items. All winners were notified by Sunday morning and the success of the day was measured by the pleasure felt by everyone

who attended some or all of the events, even if they did not get one of the items from the auction. Everyone was a winner in this happy and successful fund-raiser for the club.

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