

WORLD CROKINOLE CHAMPIONSHIP - 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Crokinole on 'The Rock'

Wayne and Betty Hann of Corner Brook, Newfoundland came to play in their first World Crokinole tournament this past Saturday, June 2, 2018.

"Crokinole? What's That," was emblazoned on their matching red t-shirts, a testament to their dedication in promoting the game in their home province.

Wayne was born and raised in Corner Brook and spent his career in finance with the Canadian Air Force. While stationed in Winnipeg, he met and married Betty, now a retired school teacher. She grew up in Manitoba where she said, "Our family always played crokinole at Christmastime."

They moved back to Wayne's hometown of

Corner Brook about 35 years ago and Betty brought her love for the board game with her. She was still teaching school when Newfoundlander Brad Gushue and his Canadian curling team won gold at the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin, Italy. Betty remembers Brad piquing interest for curling and she thought crokinole had similar goals, but could be easily learned and played by the 250 students in the school. She contacted Mr. Crokinole, the late Wayne Kelly of Stratford, and ordered six boards to use in her classrooms. Many people had never heard of the game, but were instantly hooked.

Since retiring, Betty and Wayne say they "play every night after supper." The thought then



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Wayne and Betty Hann of Corner Brook, Newfoundland.

occurred to them that it would be great to see what it's like to play against other enthusiasts. They searched the internet for crokinole

tournaments and found the WCC in Tavistock.

"We just had to come," Betty said.

The couple flew in to London Friday night,

stayed in Stratford, and returned home Sunday.

While here they said they ate at Quehl's Restaurant twice. "It's great food," Wayne said. It was a strange coincidence when Wayne talked to a former employee about coming to Tavistock. The former Ontarian said "there's nothing there to see, but you have to eat at Quehl's."

Wayne and Betty are extremely glad they came. "Everybody's so friendly," Wayne said. The couple played in both the doubles and singles categories during the day. They finished 64th and 65th in the competitive singles category and 38th in competitive doubles.

"We had a lot of fun," Betty stated, "but there's stiff competition."

Shelburne Shenanigans

Crokinole is one thing, but a Croki-Spiel?

Four members of the Shelburne Curling Club attended this year's World Crokinole Championship for the first time and went home with great prizes.

Darren Carr and Damir Kamenski, along with Dave McCormick and Kathi Fisher wore their matching, bright green "Shelburne Shenanigans" t-shirts to the tournament. The group entered into the Recreational Doubles and Singles divisions and were not disappointed.

The foursome got excited about crokinole two years ago when they started bringing their boards to the Shelburne Curling Club to play during their social time afterwards. "It was a great

way to end the week," Dave continued, "six ends of curling and then six hours of crokinole."

Last year two of them entered into a local crokinole tournament and won, bringing bragging rights back to the curling club. With crokinole becoming a big hit, the group decided to host their inaugural Croki-Spiel on March 30th. Sixteen teams of two participated in the event. After a seven-game crokinole round robin and two games of two-on-two curling, points were tallied. The top four teams moved into the playoffs and Kathi and Damir were crowned champions.

That's when they decided to bring their skills to the World



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Shelburne curlers Kathi Fisher, Dave McCormick, Damir Kamenski and Darren Carr.

Crokinole Championship in Tavistock. And they had a great finish. Darren Carr took home \$300 cash and

the Recreational Singles trophy while Damir Kamenski won the official WCC crokinole board in

the prize draw.

"We were here for the fun and we had a blast," Dave said.

OPTIMIST CLUB OF TAVISTOCK
4th Annual Parkfest

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3-year-old Brody Stevenson pets a goat outside the petting zoo.

It was a great day on Saturday, June 2nd for the 4th Annual Optimist Club of Tavistock Parkfest. Optimists gave tractor and wagon rides and Ken Mogk gave horse-drawn wagon rides which were a big hit. Face painting was done by Hannah Cole and a bouncy castle was sponsored by the Tavistock Chamber of Commerce.

Lots of food and fun provided by the Optimists again this year.



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Julia Zehr, Lindsey Vanderhyden, Jenna McWhirter, Kylie Jackson

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A thank you to all participants, sponsors, committee members, and referees, Ken Wettlaufer, Don McKay, Bill Gladding, Ken Roth, scorekeepers, volunteers, trophy presenters, food booths, and Firemen's Chicken Barbecue supper for making the World Crokinole Championship a successful and fun day. Everything was greatly appreciated.

Thanks again from Paul Epp, John Schultz, Mary Alice Roth, Lois Kalbfleisch, Sherrill Calder, Kathy Rosenberg, Keith Brenneman, Jason Beierling and Nathan Walsh.