



Waverley Wilson (left) reminisces about his time as manager of Markham teams. Reuben Meyer (top right) was the oldest man present at the reunion — he's 98. At right, former Toronto Maple Leaf Sid Smith (left), and former Chicago Black Hawk Ike Hildebrand talk about old times with former NHL referee Vern Buffey.

## Markham, Stouffville oldtimers

# Hockey greats gather again

By JIM THOMAS

It was an evening two communities will never forget.

Former Markham and Stouffville hockey stars, spanning a period of 60 years, gathered Wednesday for a reunion at the Markham Centennial Centre.

The committee, headed by John Lunau and Bob Lawrie of Markham, and Bert Baker of Stouffville, hope to make the gathering an annual event.

Highlighting the evening was the naming of two men, one a builder and the other a player, to the Markham-Stouffville Hockey Hall of Fame.

The choice of Hockey Build-

der over the last half-century was John Bayes of George Street in Markham.

Selected as Hockey Player over the last 50 years was Jack Watson of Main Street West in Stouffville.

Their names have been encribed on the Max Reesor Award, a plaque donated by Conlin Motors Ltd., Ralph Spademan Ltd., Century 21, (Doug Meharg), Yorkton Securities, Appleton & Hughes, Bill Hood, Harry Young and John Lunau.

Mr. Reesor was involved in hockey as both a player and a referee. He also excelled at baseball, curling and lawn-bowling.

Mr. Bayes was introduced by Markham's Ernie Law-

rie. Mr. Lawrie recalled how three Markham men, Grant Nighswander, Bob McDonald and John Bayes had taken over the operation of a weak Markham Junior club and turned it into an Ontario Championship team in three years.

Jack Watson was introduced by Bob Lawrie. It was told how Jack holds the signal honor of being associated with Provincial Titles in three areas of sport — hockey, curling and fastball. "I've never met a more competitive player," Bob said.

Individual plaques were presented by Grant Malcolm to John Bayes and by Bill Hood to Jack Watson.

While much of the night was spent 'reunionizing', several special events were featured including a mock face-off between former arch-rivals Bob Bangay of the Markham 'Millionaires' and Stouffville 'Clippers', and Del Beaumont of the Georgetown 'Raiders'. The puck was dropped by ex-NHL referee Vern Buffey.

The oldest gentleman in attendance was Reuben Meyer of North Markham. Mr. Meyer is 98. He was accorded a standing ovation.

Many travelled long distances including Murray Clendenning from Timmins; 'Chick' Webster from

Mattawa and Frank Carr from Clearwater, Florida.

A letter of congratulations was read by John Lunau from Markham. Mayor Carole Bell. Husband Ron Bell played with the 1952 OHA Senior B Champion 'Clippers' and also with Markham.

In her letter's conclusion, Mayor Bell tactfully recommended that any repeat reunions also include the players' wives.

Proceeds from the event, after expenses had been paid, were presented to Keith Brown and Bill Hood representing the Markham Stouffville Hospital Board.



Several members of the Markham Millionaires hockey club attend Wednesday's reunion. They are (front row left to right) Jack Watson, Earle Clement, Norm Stunden, Bill Armstrong, Ross Robertson, Bert Baker and (back row) John Lunau, Morris Galand, George Rumney, Vic Sluce, Reg Singleton, Jack Rumney, Fred Scott, Ron Bell and George Scott.

Photos  
 By  
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 Lanning