



Temma's treasures include a photo of herself with Syd and a painting by her mother.

## Temma Gotfrit loves traveling to her winter home at OTOW, but will not turn down a trip anywhere

By John Koning

A conversation with Temma Gotfrit doesn't last long before it's evident that she is thrilled to be living at On Top of the World.

Then a mischievous smile will cross her face and she'll tell you that she's thrilled to be living ... period.

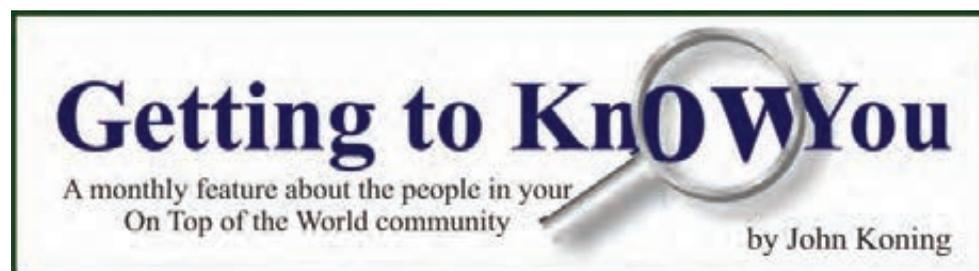
Temma's positive outlook on life is obvious. It's also a deciding factor in this octogenarian's ability to make the long trek from her Ontario home to her Australian Way home here at OTOW.

Temma hires a driver to transport herself and her car back and forth in autumn and then again in spring. It's been the same driver for the last six years.

If that's not enough travel, Temma flies back to Canada at least twice more each season. It's safe to say that she's getting the most bang for her passport buck.

While Temma's here, she is a regular at exercise class, at Snowbirds Club line dancing and also at the OTOW Line Dance Club. It's no secret that Temma loves to dance. She used to do quite a bit of it with her late husband, Sydney.

In those days, the Gotfrit and a few other couples would hire a dance instructor and dance in someone's



basement. Temma has many fond memories of waltzing and jitterbugging with Syd.

Temma and Syd met on a ski hill in Prefontaine, north of Montreal, Canada, when she was 17 and he was 23. They were married two years later and spent the next 55 years together until Syd passed away.

Music and dancing go well together and such was the case at the Gotfrit home. Syd played trumpet and clarinet while Temma tickled the ivories of their baby grand.

Temma can boast two handsome sons, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Two of her grandchildren are now studying medicine, one is studying law in French, one is a graphic designer who runs her own company, one is a child youth worker and yet another is a manager of customer relations.

Yes, Temma has serious bragging rights!

Travel was a big part of the lives

of the Gotfrit family, and that was OK by Temma. We have her on record saying she would sell her very soul for the opportunity to travel, but I'm sure she was embellishing for dramatic effect.

At least I think so.

During their working years, Temma was a legal secretary and Syd was a professional fund raiser for the State of Israel. This was his modus operandi: He would take clients on a tour of Israel and the Holy Land then ask them to part with some of their money.

Of course, it was all done in the most amiable manner possible. His job was to show them how they could best make a positive difference in the lives of other Jews.

The downside of Syd's professional calling was lots of travel. As far as Temma was concerned, the upside to Syd's profession was, you guessed it, lots of travel!

The Gotfrits visited the Middle East several times a year. With Tem-

ma's less than subtle coercion, they would usually tack a side trip onto the business end of things. There were two reasons for this. The first reason was to give Syd a break from his punishing schedule. The second was to satisfy Temma's travel addiction.

Predictably, thanks to Temma's influence, the family found themselves in Grecian destinations, like Rhodes and Santorini, and many other Mediterranean destinations such as Portugal, Italy and Egypt.

On this side of the Atlantic, the family traveled to various US and Canadian destinations. Her favorite spot was western Canada's Lake Louise area and its mind blowing beauty.

After Syd passed away, Temma indulged her travel bug with a coast-to-coast tour of China. When pressed for her favorite moment of the trip to the Orient, she just couldn't nail it down. Enough said. She followed up that adventure with a trip to Yugoslavia. The beauty of the country is still with her to this day.

These days Temma is staying put, if you can call her migratory habits staying put. When asked about the best part of life at OTOW, there's no hesitation. It's the people.

With residents like Temma living here, is there any doubt?