

June 1991

# THE GYROLOG



THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON  
- EDMONTON - ALBERTA

**OUR LAST MEETING:** Our last meeting was held at the Mayfair Golf Club on Tuesday June 18 with 35 Gyros in attendance. Some of us arrived late and had to squeeze in to fully occupied tables. However, only John Ross and Dick Mandlis arrived so late that they had to sit in the corner. Fortunately, few people hucked buns. The event would have been more businesslike had President Merle been in the chair. Unfortunately, he was in the hospital so has been, sorry PAST Pres. Al McClure chaired the unruly mob. Now that I look at his list of attendees again, I realize that if he had included himself there would have been 36 in attendance.

**BIRTHDAYS:** Only one Gyro celebrated a birthday in this period, it was Past President Neil "the joker" Sheidow. We didn't know whether to be happy or sad that he was not in attendance. At first we were sad not to be able to share his friendship. Then someone observed that on his birthday he would probably want the floor to tell jokes for an unlimited period - with that realization a number of Gyros resolved to make the best of his absence.

**HEALTH AND WELFARE:** Bert Boren reported that John Boychuck is in hospital for a cataract operation. Also, Greta Stanley asked to be remembered to the group and reported that she enjoys the Gyrolog (also known as Rennie's ramblings). Greetings to you Greta! Gord Rennie reported that Louis Tremblay is in the Royal Alex hospital.

**ROSTER:** Past President David Burnett informed those present that he is in the process of updating the roster. If you have changes in employment, addresses, telephone numbers of whatever that you wish to have included in the new roster, please call David at the office or at home, Perhaps the office would be a good idea because then you could break up an otherwise idle day.

**DISTRICT VIII CONVENTION:** The District VIII Convention is scheduled for Regina from July 18 to July 21, 1991. A number of the Gyros present of the 18th indicated that they were planning to attend. Although it is too late for the early bird draw, it is not too late to participate so get your reservations in now.

**GYROETTE SCRAMBLE:** Ernie Seigel reported that there are still spaces for golfers in the gyroette scramble to be held at Devon on August 8, 1991. Ernie admitted that at this point he has nearly enough prizes but bashfully admitted that he still needs more. Suggestions from the floor included memberships in the Reform party and the Canadian Association of Retired People.

**GUEST SPEAKERS:** Mort Morter introduced our two guest speakers from **CRIMESTOPPERS**. They were Judy Moran who is currently on the Board of Directors of Crimestoppers and who is a past president of the organization. Also, Detective Gerry Mehebus from the Edmonton Police Service who is the coordinator was introduced.

Judy explained that Crimestoppers is a totally voluntary operation with 21 elected members of the Board. The Board is involved in setting policy, overseeing the administration, public awareness and resource development. It is a non-profit, charitable organization that obtains its funds from corporations, service clubs and individual citizens. None of its revenues come from tax dollars. In an admitted commercial she stated that she would like Gyros to remember Crimestoppers when considering how to distribute our charitable funds.

She added that the Edmonton Crimestoppers is considered to be an enormous success and is on top of over 700 other similar organizations in other cities. In the last four years, Edmonton has won the productivity award for the most cases cleared. She attributed the success to the fact that the Board, the media, the Edmonton Police Service and the citizens of Edmonton work together as a team in this effort to reduce crime.

Crimestoppers works on the basis of anonymous tips from the general public. Although tipsters are anonymous, based on the type of information provided, Crimestoppers speculates that a good number operate in or near the criminal element. Since its inception, Crimestoppers has saved considerable taxpayers dollars by reducing police investigation time and by leading to a successful investigation where no leads existed.

**Detective**

**Detective** Mehenus has been with the Edmonton Police Service for 24 years and has been the coordinator of Crimestoppers since September of 1990. The service started in Calgary in 1982 and commenced in Edmonton in March of 1983. It operates via a local and toll free number which tipsters can use to provide their information.

When a tipster calls in they are assigned a number and confidentiality is guaranteed. They provide their information and then are instructed to call back in two weeks to find out about the success of the investigation.

Awards of up to \$2,000 can be provided. The most expensive two week period (the length of time between awards) was \$7,000 for 13 cases. To collect an award a person is given a code name and is told to go to a public location where they provide their number and code name and received an award in cash.

The re-enactments of crimes is the way the program started. There has been considerable success with this approach.

Rumour has it that nothing means anything to Barry Walker unless there are numbers attached. So for Barry and the other bean counting Gyros, let's see what we can recall.

- 0 from the beginning of the program until the end of May there were
  - \* 10,874 toll free calls
  - \* 66,138 local calls

- 0 this has resulted in the creation of 11,828 Crimestopper files

- 0 from those files 2,391 arrests have resulted

- 0 from those arrests 5,203 criminal cases have been solved

- 0 as a result of those arrests, 1,905 awards with a value of \$500,980 have been recommended

- 0 of the awards recommended, 958 individuals have claimed their awards worth a total of \$334,865

Dick Ogilvie has agreed to do an audit of the above numbers for a nominal fee of a looney. Or is it that he agreed to do a looney audit of the numbers for free? I'm not sure but who can figure out Ogilvie's audits anyway?

The speakers were thanked and presented with a token of appreciation by Ken McKenzie.

**GYRO TEAMS:** The list of Gyro teams for programs for the upcoming year were distributed. Those who were not present will find their list enclosed. On July 2, David Burnett promises to produce the most exciting Gyro program since 1974 - the details cannot yet be revealed but the impact is guaranteed to be tremendous. That will be followed by an effort at a topper by competitive old Allan Warrack on July 16. Details to follow. If you want to bid on any date or event please let President Merle know as soon as possible.

**THE DRAW:** Judy Moran made the draw for a free lunch. Not surprisingly, she drew the name of her old friend whom she had greeted warmly at the beginning of the meeting. There was a high level of disapproval and many catcalls of "fix". The winner bribed me not to publish his name, explaining that none of the Gyros who were present would be able to remember at this point, and that those who were absent don't need to know. Since I am so easy to bribe I will neither reveal his name nor the fact that he is on page five of the roster.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday July 2, 1991  
Mayfair Golf Club

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12:00 noon (12:30 in Newfoundland)

SMILE!  
YOU'RE A GYRO!

