



THE GYROLOG THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

President

Leon Lubin
780 454-9712

JULY 2009

1stVice-President

Bill Taylor
780 430-0330

Those celebrating their birthdays in July are **John Mann** on the 2nd and **Leon Lubin** on the 18th.

2ndVice-President

Ari Hoeksema
780 421-7776

The July wedding anniversaries are **Barry and Valerie Walker**, 39 years on the 11th; **Bryce and Florrie Van Dusen**, 69 years on the 13th; **Jack and Joyce Brown**, 9 years on the 15th and **John and 'Mim'-Bertsch Mann**, 9 years on the 28th.

Past President

John Plunkett
780 435-7011

Secretary

Barry Walker
780 475-0983

Treasurer

Mike Matei
780 930-1780

Directors

Peter Carter
780 488-2403
Sam Gruden
780 488-5520
Chuck Gerhart
780 439-9792
Ken Willan
780 434-1306

Gyrolog Editor

Fred Schulte
780 434-0925

SECOND POSTING

Len Stevens has applied for membership in our club. **Len** and his wife **Barbara** reside at **212 Country Club Point NW** in Edmonton and their postal code is **T6M 2J6**. Their telephone number is **780-481-4791** and their e-mail address is lastevens@shaw.ca Len is retired and is proposed by **Bruce Foy** and **John Ross**.

FIRST POSTING

Jack Slobodan has applied for membership in our club. **Jack** and his wife **Myrna** reside at **211 Lynnwood Way** in Edmonton and their postal code is **T5R 1L1**. Their telephone number is **780-489-5709** and their email address is jslobodan@shaw.ca Jack is retired and is proposed by **Walter Yakimets** and **Marty Larson**.

President Leon Lubin welcomed 30 Gyro's, one new member applicant and three guests to the July 7th luncheon meeting held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club.

Bill Taylor led the group in the singing of *Cheerio* and "**Dutch**" **Hoeksema** presented the *Grace*. **Bryce Van Dusen** introduced his guest **Doug Thomas**, **Walter Yakimets** introduced his guest and new member applicant **Jack Slobodan** and **Allan Warrack** introduced our guest speaker **Jordi Weidman**. New member applicant, **Len Stevens** was also in attendance.

Marty Larson advised the membership on some of the decisions made at the **Gyro International and District IX Convention** held in San Diego June 8th-14th. There will be no International dues increase in 2009-2010 due to current financial constraints but in order to keep costs under control the publication of the *Gyroscope* magazine will be reduced from four paper issues per year to two. At least one further issue of the magazine will be sent via e-mail because most of our members are now on-line. It is also expected that the Bi-Annual Roster will also be sent via the internet, thus giving further savings. The Black Lake and Fresno Club's were able to keep the convention costs in the black by selling 50/50 tickets and by holding a silent auction.

Congratulations to **Larry Duba** of the Fresno Gyro Club (District IX) who has been elected as Third International Vice President. Larry is the third international officer elected from District-IX, and the second from Fresno.

Treasurer Mike Matei presented the **Financial Statements for the Year Ending March 31, 2009** and the proposed **Budget for the Year Ending March 31, 2010**. The 2010 Budget was approved unanimously on a motion by **Chuck Gerhart** and seconded by **Marty Larson**. The Financial Statements for the Year Ending March 31, 2009 were approved unanimously on a motion by **Allan Warrack** and seconded by **Jack Brown**.

Allan Warrack introduced our guest speaker **Jordi Weidman**, Director of Business Operations for the **Edmonton Capitals Baseball Club**. **Jordi** was born in Edmonton and began his radio announcing career in Red Deer. Prior to his appointment with the Edmonton Capitals, **Jordi** was Manager of Communications for the Edmonton Oil Kings for two years which is part of the Edmonton Eskimo's organization.

The Edmonton Capitals are one of 19 teams in the five year-old **Golden Baseball League**. There are no direct ties to the Major Baseball leagues but there are many very talented college-draft players as well as some former major league players who have been recruited by the Golden League.

The Edmonton Capitals, who are part of the Edmonton Eskimo's organization have established as their primary goal to re-establish the connection with the community. There is a fun family focus with a motto of "Have a Ball for Nine Dollars". The "**Signature Sunday's**" have been very successful with opportunities for the young fans to receive autographs from all of the players, as well as swinging the bats and running the bases.

One of key pillars of the Capital's approach is reasonable prices. Kids have the opportunity to purchase a 20 game ticket package for \$49 and adult admissions have been set at nine dollars for general admission, \$12.50 for reserved seats and \$17 for club seats. The food services approach has been completely revamped with an emphasis on better quality and reasonable prices. A three dollar combo is available every day and on Tuesday's the combo price is \$2. Adults can purchase a hotdog and a beer for six dollars.

The first Friday of each month will be highlighted with fireworks and on Saturday nights there will be baseball movies shown after the game. The baseball movies have been very successful and are shown on an 11 by 20 foot inflatable screen. The business/corporate clientele have shown a very positive response to the picnic area at field level where a hotdog/hamburger and game ticket combo is available. The Executive Suites which are unique in this league have been completely revamped with new cabinetry and carpeting.

The Capital's have targeted a 1700-2000 average per game attendance and to date have averaged 1900 attendees per game. The salaries of each of the Capitals players have been negotiated within an overall season budget for the players of \$83,000. The players drive and enthusiasm must be based on their love of the game and not their pay cheque!

Chuck Gerhart thanked Jordi for his very enthusiastic and informative presentation. The Free Lunch draw was won by **Mike Matei**.

Allan and **Jean Warrack** returned home from a visit to Halifax, Nova Scotia in late June and advised of their visit with relatives to Hubbards, Nova Scotia for an "old tyme lobster feed" at the Shore Club. A dance hall and restaurant, the Shore Club was built in 1946 by Roy Harnish on his cow pasture overlooking Hubbards Cove. The history of lobster feeds by the Harnish family goes back even further to 1936 when Guy Harnish was asked to cater a Lobster Supper for the **National Gyro Club Convention**. In his cattle barn, Guy had been using a large copper kettle as a feed trough for his cows. The copper kettle had been the cook pot aboard the U.S. Frigate "The Chesapeake". During a famous battle on June 1, 1813, the British ship,

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"The Shannon" sailed into Boston Harbour and challenged the Chesapeake. The battle only lasted 15 minutes, with the victorious Shannon towing the Chesapeake back to Halifax, where her chattels were sold at public auction. The large copper pot ended up in the possession of Guy Harnish, and in 1936 cooked its first meal in over 120 years.

The Gyro fraternity in Nova Scotia is still thriving with clubs located in Dartmouth, Kentville, New Glasgow, Truro and Windsor.

The **Annual Gyro/Gyrette Golf Tournament** was held at the **Legends Golf Course** on July 21st with 36 golfers in attendance under warm and sunny skies. Nine additional Gyro's and Gyrette's joined the group for a steak barbeque. Every one in attendance received at least one prize for golfing or winning a lucky number draw ticket. Some of the attendees won more than their fair share of prizes and required help to cart the loot to their cars. Vigilance will be required next year to prevent excessive re-gifting of prizes from these "lucky" winners.

Valerie and **Barry Walker** and **Janet** and **Roger Russell** are commended for their hard work and excellent organizing skills which resulted in another first class event. Thanks also to **Marlene** and **David Burnett** and **Nadine Young** for providing tasty "refreshments" at Hole No. 5.



Jo-Anne and Leon Lubin, Paulette Schulte



**Marlene & David Burnett and
Nadine Young Hole #5**

Jill Hastings, Bea McKenzie and Sam Gruden

**The Program Committee is going to run the first 50/50 draw on August 4th;
please bring a loonie or toonie.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regular Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Club, August 4th

**Speaker: Jim Carter retired President of Syncrude Canada and current Chair
of the Premier's Taskforce on Carbon Capture.**

Contact: David Burnett (780-435-1837)

Gyro/Gyrette Corn Roast, Malmo Community League Hall, Tuesday, August 18th

Time: Bocci 5:00 pm, Dinner 6:00 pm

Corn, Chicken, Salad and Dessert \$15 per person

Beer and Wine \$2, Soft drinks \$1

Contacts: Roger Russell 780-434-4333, Marty Larson (Bocci) 780-434-9692

Gyrette Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, Tuesday, September 8th

Time: 6:00 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm

Speaker: Stephanie McDonald, Edmonton Humane Society

Contact: Marlene Burnett 780-435-1837

District VIII Convention, Cranbrook B.C., September 17th to 20th

Convention Hotel, Days Inn Cranbrook, Single Queen-\$84.95, Double Queen-\$94.95

Phone (250) 426-6683

Gyro Day at the Races, Sunday, September 27th.

Location: Edmonton Northlands

Doors open 12:00 noon, Prime Rib Buffet, Balsamic Chicken, Vegetable Medley, Salads, Desserts, Coffee and Tea, 12:30 pm

Cost, \$37 per person, Gyro's or Guests

Races commence 1:00 pm

Contacts: Val Pohl 780-462-0511, John Mann 780-434-3282, Sam Gruden 780-488-5520