



# ***THE GYROLOG***

**THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON**

**Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921**

**President-Dunc Mills, Past President-Chuck Gerhart**

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President-Ron Trant**

**Secretary-Barry Walker, Treasurer-David Burnett,**

**Directors- Doug Armstrong, Ray Dallaire,**

**Dan Hasinoff, Martin Marshall, Peter Carter (Ex-Officio)**

**Database Administrator-John Ross, Gyrolog Editor-Fred Schulte**

**Club Website: [www.edmontongyroclub.com](http://www.edmontongyroclub.com)**

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## **MAY 2021**

Those celebrating their birthdays are **Hank Mottl** on the 12<sup>th</sup>, **Len Evenson** on the 13<sup>th</sup>, **David Burnett** on the 18<sup>th</sup>, and **Allan Warrack** on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Those celebrating their wedding anniversaries are **Sheldon and Judy Weatherby, 50 years on the 15<sup>th</sup>**; **Fred and Paulette Schulte, 53 years on the 18<sup>th</sup>**; **Jack and Steffany Bowen, 27 years on the 21<sup>st</sup>**, and **Chuck and Myrna Gerhart, 56 years on the 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

**President Dunc Mills** welcomed 27 Gyros and our guest speaker to the May 4<sup>th</sup> Zoom Video Teleconference.

**Past President Ray Dallaire** welcomed his good friend, **Paul Dumont**. Ray and Paul went to J.H. Picard Junior High School in the 1970's

Paul indicated that he graduated from J.H. Picard, then went to the University of Alberta and graduated with a B.Ed. in Math and taught High School for five years. Paul then got into networking and motivational speaking and learned that success is not always what you see, but there can be a quiet underground growth. From a business perspective, "**The Struggle Makes You Strong.**"

In 1992-93, Canada was in the midst of a recession and Paul made an exploratory trip to the Philippines. He liked what he saw and the fact that English was widely spoken. Paul went back in 1994 and started loaning out money at 8%. The drug lords checked him out and then set him up. He was convicted as a drug lord, and he entered a very dark time. He was let out on bail, and it took Paul 10 years to clear his name and deal with restitution orders. It was very unusual to win in court! He admitted to being a workaholic.

In 1995, Paul established **Enhance Visa Services Incorp.** to help Filipinos emigrate to Canada. The company was hugely successful and grew to 135 employees. At the same time, Paul was involved with side investments, became addicted to drugs, arrested, and convicted. One of his investment schemes backfired and he took back 100 dairy cows and bought farmland on the island of Cebu.

A farm tourism site was established called **Rabbiton by Shekinah Farm** which offered food services offering unique culinary specialties, offering overnight Farmstaycation, with 1000 bunnies initially waiting to greet everyone. They also also featured Herbitton, Piggitton and Chickitton and Horsitton. Filipinos are not familiar with rabbits, but they turned out to be a huge tourist draw. The operation soon attracted 1000 people a day and required 60 fulltime staff to accommodate the demand to see the rabbits. 1000 new rabbits were required every month. As a result, local farmers were shown how to breed rabbits and sell them to Rabbiton. This local rabbit farming provided farmers which much more revenue than most other farm activities. Surplus rabbits were also sold to other resorts.

Paul met a world-class chef visiting at Rabbiton who had worked in South America and learned all about cooking but had never cooked rabbit. The chef couldn't wait to try his skills, and he developed recipes for roasted rabbit and a rabbit burger for the Kuncho Restaurant at Rabbiton. Rabbiton is still most popular for its wide variety of rabbits to look at and play with.



Paul concluded his remarks with the statement that “every adversity is a blessing” and has produced many positive results. He is retired now and enjoys the views of the sea from his home and the year-round temperatures of 32 to 34 degrees Celsius.

Our Gyros had many questions about **Enhance Visa Services**.

Why do so many Filipinos come to Canada? Educated Filipinos all speak English, and they are trained as nurses, physiotherapists and many other occupations which are in high demand in Canada, Australia, and the USA. Many of them will still need to re-educate to meet local requirements but they still want to come and live in Canada. Enhance Visa Services processes up to 3000 people a month who are looking for an Immigrant Visa, a Study to Residency Pathway, a Dependent Visa, a Spouse Visa, or a Fiancée Visa.

**Larry Dobson** thanked Paul for his interesting and fascinating presentation.

**GYRO International President Alan Pentney** congratulated our new Executive and our 100<sup>th</sup> Club Anniversary on July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

There are currently 1900 members in 70 clubs in the USA and Canada. A virtual Annual General Meeting will be held in place of the cancelled Winnipeg Gyro International Convention which was to be held on August 4-8.

The 2022 Gyro International Convention will be held in Cleveland, Ohio in which **Peter Carter** will be installed as **International President**.

The 2023 Gyro International Convention will be held in Canada and District VIII will likely be called upon to hold the event.

**Jack Little** was again the **Virtual Free Lunch Winner!**

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**President Dunc Mills** welcomed 24 Gyros to the May 18<sup>th</sup> Zoom Video Teleconference.

**Fred Schulte** welcomed **Cliff Revell**, a 15-year member of the Edmonton Gyro Club who was sponsored by **Marty Larson in 2006**.

Cliff was born and raised in Edmonton. The Revell family has a history of careers in the medical field. His grandfather, a doctor, helped set up the School of Medicine at the University of Alberta and became the Head of the Anatomy Department. Cliff's dad was a General Dentist, one uncle a Dentist, another an Anesthesiologist, and an aunt was the Matron of nursing at the U. of A. Student Health Clinic.

It's not surprising that Cliff chose Dentistry as a career. He received his BSc. In Chemistry and Dental Degree at the U. of A. Periodontics was of interest to him, so he spent two years at the University of California in San Francisco getting a Masters in Oral Biology. Cliff practiced in Periodontics for 42 years and taught both full time and part time at the University of Alberta.

**Cliff and Kathy** presented the following information.

In 1989, we joined a group of eight American dentists to survey and treat 1100 children and young adults on the **Truk Islands in Micronesia**. Truk is more than 100 km East of Guam and north of Papua New Guinea. The clinics were conducted on three islands, and it took three days. The schools had no electricity. The incidence of decay was much greater between 5-to-9-year Olds than those 11 to

14 years old. Cliff speculated that the easier to obtain candy and refined carbohydrates had brought this about. All of this could have arrested with preventative and interceptive care. Many children had never seen a toothbrush, so the dentists instructed teachers in oral care to pass on the skills to the children. Treatments included extractions for teeth decayed at the gum line, and filling using a battery-operated drill. Nothing was mechanized! They brought their own instruments and supplies. The children were cooperative and easy to treat. The locals were friendly and somewhat shy.

We also had an opportunity to scuba dive while in **Truk Lagoon**. It was once a Japanese Imperial Fleet base and witnessed ferocious battles in 1944 when Allied carrier attack planes swooped down. More than 100 Japanese aircraft, ships and submarines lay in the shallow waters of the Lagoon. It was possible to stand on a submerged gun turret and appear to be walking on water. Truk Lagoon has some of the best wreck diving in the world as the water has great visibility and 28 C temperatures year-round.

Fishing was done with hand grenades filled with ammunition taken from the warships. No need to use traditional methods! The practice is destroying the fish stocks and the fragile coral reef. It was an excellent trip and we saw so many interesting things and were able to provide much needed dental care.



**Kathy and Cliff 1989**



**Fred Schulte** introduced **Ken Willan** who was sponsored by **Jack Brown and Barry Walker**, and inducted into our club on November 18, 2008. He served as a Director from 2009-2011 and took over the management of the Edmonton Gyro Club in 2012.

Ken indicated that the **Willan clan** dates back to the 12<sup>th</sup> Century on The English-Scottish border where cattle rustling was an honourable profession if you stayed on your side of the border.

The original family farm consisted of a 100-acre land grant in Ontario in 1857 with an extended family of eight.

Ken was **born on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 1944 and** was the youngest of four. Their farm had eight milk cows, beef cattle, pigs, chickens, draft horses, an unreliable tractor, and no plumbing. There was a 44-acre pasture one mile away and a cattle drive spring and fall. We were self-sufficient and had a milk house, made butter, and supplied eggs to the community. We had an apple orchard, a hickory tree, a walnut tree, and a peach tree. There were strawberries, radishes, cucumbers, beet pickles and sweet pickles. I played baseball in the summer and hockey in ditches and on ponds in the winter.

**My father** was a farmer, but he loved photography and was a projectionist at the local theatre, so there was free admission to the movies. I started my education in a one room schoolhouse which was located next to our property, with grades one to eight, and a maximum of 24 students. I went from grade one to grade three. I helped my father with janitor work at the school and did cleaning, mowing of grass and filled the furnace with coal. I had lots of free time and loved reading and did my homework in front of the TV. One time playing Peewee, ball I accidentally got a hit from a tall black kid named **Ferguson Jenkins** from Chatham. Ferguson played for the Chicago Cubs from 1967-1972 and won the Cy Young Award in 1971.

I went to high school in Leamington, Ontario about ten miles away for grades 9-13. My Grade nine Art teacher was impressed with my art history knowledge but observed that I couldn't draw a straight line with a ruler!

In Grade 10, I took Latin, which I found very precise and then French, where I had the worst pronunciation. In Grade 12, I played football and dislocated my shoulder and then dislocated it again in every sport I played. I ended up putting a screw in the socket to stop it from slipping out.

I attended Westminster College at the University of Western Ontario (UWO) and met **Barb Boughner** at Westminster Hall. Barb and I were married in 1966. Barb was the first Canadian woman to graduate as a **Radiation Oncologist**.

My summer jobs while attending college were working at the wood mill, the unemployment office, Olmstead Fisheries, and Dixon Van Lines. I graduated with an Honours History degree and received a teaching certificate. I spent 14 years in Ontario teaching grades 9-13.

**In 1981, we moved to Edmonton** when mortgage rates were 22% and Canada Savings Bonds yielded 19.5%. I joined **Tempo** and taught at this K-12 private school in the Riverbend neighbourhood for 24 years. It was a small academic school, with only 120 students and 14 teachers. The school's curriculum focused on the academic studies and intellectual development of its students through traditional teaching methods. I retired in 2005 and we now spend three months each year at Welk Resort near San Diego.

I coached Little League and met **Warren Garbutt** and **Jack Brown**. Jack invited me to a Gyro meeting and sponsored my membership.

Our son **Jeff** was diagnosed with histiocytic lymphoma in 1983 which had a 3% survival rate. The good news is that he survived! He obtained his accounting degree and is presently Assistant Deputy minister, Strategic Services, Alberta Education.

Our daughter **Jennifer** is a Ringette Hall of Fame member whose most memorable moment was scoring the overtime goal against Ontario giving Alberta the right to represent Canada against Finland. Again, Jennifer scored the overtime goal to win the Gold Medal for Canada.

Our granddaughter **Madison** was a U. of A. Sports Rookie of the year, University Hockey Rookie of the Year, played on the Baseball National Team and was the first to hit a home run out of the park. (At her first time at bat!) She was also the Derrick Ladies Golf Champion 2020.

The **Book of Willan's** motto is "**Where there's a Willan there's a way**".

"**Smile and smile and be a Willan**" (Hamlet), one may **smile, and smile, and be a villain.**"

**John Ross** thanked Ken for his presentation of great stories and lots of giggles!

**Fred Otto** was the **Virtual Free Lunch Draw Winner**.



The Willan Clan June 3, 2016



Dick Nichols reports on the Hockey Pool Winners.

Game 13 April 3	Winners	First Period	Second	Final
<b>Oilers vs Canucks</b>				
First Period	2 4	Sarra Dobson	Marg Foy	Peter Carter
Second	2 5	Jack Brown	Jack Brown	Gary Campbell
Final	3 6	Warren Garbutt	Warren Garbutt	Scarlett Burnett

Game 18 April 29	Winners	First Period	Second	Final
<b>Oilers vs Flames</b>				
First Period	1 1	Jack Brown	Jack Ellis	Terrie Ellis
Second	1 2	Brooks Ross	Lauren Warrack	Dan Warrack
Final	1 3	Carol Dobson	Sarra Dobson	Larry Dobson

Thanks to Dick and his daughter Janice for organizing an extraordinarily successful Hockey Pool year!

### **Ponderables:**

1. I didn't make it to the gym today. That makes it five years in a row.
2. I decided to stop calling the bathroom "John" and renamed it the "Jim". I feel so much better saying I went to the Jim this morning.
3. Old age is coming at a really bad time.
4. When I was a child, I thought "Nap Time" was punishment. Now, as a grownup, it feels like a small vacation.
5. The biggest lie I tell myself is "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it"
6. I don't have gray hair; I have "wisdom highlights". I'm just very wise.
7. If God wanted me to touch my toes, He would have put them on my knees.
8. Last year I joined a support group for procrastinators. We haven't met yet.
9. Of course, I talk to myself. Sometimes I need expert advice.
10. At my age "Getting lucky" means walking into a room and remembering what I came in for.
11. Actually, I'm not complaining because I am a Senager. (Senior teenager) I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 60 years later. I don't have to go to school or work. I get an allowance every month. I have my own pad. I don't have a curfew. I have a driver's license and my own car. I don't have acne. Life is good.
12. I have more friends I should send this to, but right now I don't remember which ones.

**"Fast Fred"**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Zoom Video Teleconference, Tuesday June 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Speaker: Todd Hirsch, Chief Economist ATB Financial**

**Topic: Alberta's Economy in 2021**

**Team Leader: Val Pohl**

**Zoom Video Teleconference, Tuesday June 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Speaker: Jack Bowen**

**Military Activities-Loyal Edmonton Regiment-World War II-Europe**

**Gyro Club of Edmonton 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, July 29<sup>th</sup>.**

**Gyro District 8 Convention, Deerfoot Inn and Casino, Gyro Club of Calgary  
September 23-26<sup>th</sup>**