



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

President-Georg Schuller, Past President-Jack Bowen

Vice-President-Ray Dallaire

Secretary-Barry Walker, Treasurer-Larry Dobson

**Directors- Jim Lepp, Leon Lubin, Martin Marshall, Sheldon Weatherby
Dunc Mills (Ex-Officio)**

Database Administrator-Chuck Gerhart, Gyrolog Editor-Fred Schulte

Club Website: www.edmontongyroclub.com

OCTOBER 2024

BIRTHDAYS: Roger Russell on the 5th.

Ken Korchinski, 85 on the 26th.

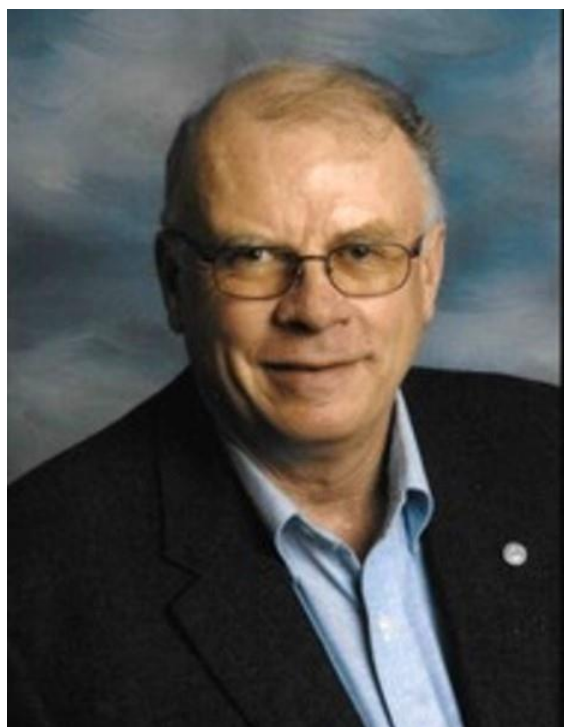
Mike Matei, on the 28th.

Doug Armstrong, 90 on the 31st.

WEDDING ANNIVERARIES: Marty and Shirley Larson, 64 years
on the 8th and Tony and Care Mazzuca, 55 years on the 10th.

Clifford John REVELL, (Cliff)

January 2, 1945 -August 1, 2024



Cliff passed away peacefully on August 1, 2024, at the age of 79 at Cameron Heights ExquisiCare in Edmonton, Alberta.

Cliff was born and raised in Edmonton. He completed his B.Sc. in Chemistry and D.D.S. both at the U of A and completed a degree in Oral Biology (Periodontics) at the University of California in San Francisco. He practiced in the field of Periodontics for 42 years and was Department Head of Periodontics at the U of A for several years. He was a lifelong learner which enabled him to connect with many people in various countries.

He will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 54 years Kathryn, his children Nancy (Dan) and Lesley (Joseph), and his grandchildren Emma, Abi, and Hugh. Cliff was predeceased by his parents Andy and Marj Revell.

A celebration of Life service was held at Southminster-Steinhauer United Church on September 21st.

Cliff and Kathryn were introduced to Gyro by Marty Larson and joined our Club in 2006.

The **Annual Men's Bocce Tourney** was held on Wednesday, October 2nd at the Italian Seniors Centre.

Governor Ted Ewanchuk and **Sherwood Park Gyro President Don Greig** welcomed forty-four members and guests from the Sherwood Park and Edmonton Gyro Club's.

We were treated to a feast of salad, pasta and veal scallopini.

The Italian Seniors Centre has displayed some new posters depicting **Italian settlement in Alberta**. We are all likely familiar with the Italian's that worked on the railways along with those who brought superior stone mason and concrete finishing skills to Alberta.

There were also two farming settlements, **Hylo** and **Venice** located just west of the town of Lac La Biche. The Village of Venice was established in 1916 and named by J.O. Billos, postmaster who emigrated from Venice, Italy in 1902.

The Bocce tourney was played on the new artificial carpet flooring, which was installed last year. We were advised that air quality measurements indicated high levels of silica dust from the packed sand in the former bocce courts. The new carpet surface covers a more solid packed cement material. Dust in the air has been eliminated!

Notwithstanding the new flooring, bocce throws are still subject to the usual low and high spots that jeopardise a potentially good shot.

The games were played with enthusiasm with a maximum of 11 points or 20 minutes per game.

The final bocce games were played out and the winners were **Terry Bajer** and **Erik Braun** from Sherwood Park and **Fred Schulte** and son in law, **Mike Long** for the Edmonton Club.

Thanks to **Mike Matei** and **Augie Annicchiarico** for organizing this great event!



Terry

Mike

Fred

Erik

Photo: Scott Brisbin



Gordon Rennie Trophy

Gordon Rennie joined the Edmonton Gyro Club in 1950 at the invitation of Russ Carter and Stew Graham. Over a 60-year period, Gord was known as "Mr. Gyro". He was Club President and District Governor, Club Historian and Editor of the GYROLOG.

The Gordon Rennie Trophy for the Annual Competition of Bocce Champions was created in 1996.

The St. Albert and Edmonton Gyro Club's played at the Italian Cultural Centre on St. Albert Trail from 1996 to 2016. In 2017, The Sherwood Park Gyro Club invited the Edmonton Club to join their Bocce tourney at the Italian Seniors Centre located near Commonwealth Stadium.

FOUNDERS NIGHT EVENT

On Wednesday, October 16th, 20 Edmonton Gyros and ladies, including **President Georg Schuller and his wife Karin Conradi** joined 52 Sherwood Park Gyros and ladies at the Broadmoor Golf and Country Club.

The event started with an hour of refreshments and visiting followed by a fine buffet capped with delicious roast beef.

Governor Ted Ewanchuk provided the traditional history of Gyro started by the three founders, **Paul Schwan, Gus Handerson** and **Ed Kagy** in Cleveland, Ohio in June 1912. *They were unusual men -- men with a burning zeal to better the world, themselves and their fellow men through the faith of the great creator- "peace and friendship".*

Gyro Club's were quickly established in other parts of the USA and then Canada.

The Edmonton Club was chartered on July 21, 1921, and the Sherwood Park Club was chartered on October 4, 1975.

The guest speakers were Sherwood Park's RCMP **Constables Kirston Appleton, Kriston Henry** and **Michael Alfred**. The topic of their presentation could be summarized as "SCAM Alert". Over the next 45 minutes we were educated about the variety of scams that are growing at an alarming rate with many of them being primarily directed at seniors and young people. Sophistication has advanced at an ever-accelerating rate, particularly with technology such as AI and more sophisticated phishing techniques. After describing what to look out for and recognizing possible scam attempts, the trio then advised us on how to react, including not yielding to the temptation to respond and what to do if you yield anyway.

Your Editor thanks **Scott Brisbin, Editor of the "Parks Point Bulletin"** for the above information.

Allan Bleiken, a long-time member of the Sherwood Park Gyro Club also provided a succinct summary of the issues presented at this Founders Night Event in his letter to Superintendent Dale Kendall, Sherwood Park RCMP Detachment dated October 17, 2024.

Dear Superintendent Kendall

Last night, October 16, the Sherwood Park and Edmonton Gyro Clubs had the great privilege of hosting an RCMP presentation on scams targeting senior citizens. The presentation was led by the dedicated team of Constable Kirston Appleton, Constable Kriston Henry, and Constable Michael Alfred. Their commitment to educating and protecting our community was truly inspiring.

The scale and impact of scamming in Canada are shocking and a growing threat to all Canadians. The fact that the value of scamming activities in Canada now exceeds \$560 million a year is a stark wake-up call for all Canadians. The depth and spread of scamming activities in all its forms is staggering, and the average citizen is uninformed and unprepared for this serious threat.

The presentation by Constables Appleton, Henry, and Alfred was an eye-opener for everyone in attendance. It was astonishing and startling to hear the scope and sophistication of concepts used by scammers to dupe their victims. Therefore, the advice and knowledge provided by the Constables was of immense value to everyone. They, especially Constable Appleton, should be highly commended.

The red flag that became apparent during the presentation was the critical need to get this message on scamming and other forms of similar criminal activity out to Canadian citizens, especially the younger generation. I commend the RCMP's outstanding efforts and long service tradition to Canadians. It is little wonder that it is the most respected, famous and admired police force in the world.

In writing this letter, I also wish to commend every member of the Sherwood Park Detachment for their outstanding service. Through its more than 150 years of service, the RCMP (and its predecessor, the Northwest Mounted Police) has played an important role in making Canada the wonderful country it is. Unfortunately, there is never enough acknowledgement and gratitude expressed for this exceptional level of dedication and service, a level that we sincerely appreciate and value.

*With kind regards,
Allan Bleiken
Member, Sherwood Park Gyro Club*



Governor Ted Ewanchuk



Constables Alfred, Henry and Appleton

Photos: Scott Brisbin

A portion of **President George Schuller's** presentation follows.

"Imagine a group of friends coming together over a century ago with one goal—simply to enjoy each other's company and form lifelong bonds. Now imagine that small gathering evolving into an international organization with thousands of members, all focused on fellowship and fun!"

The word "Gyro" as you know was chosen because it is derived from gyroscope, an instrument that keeps balance and stability, symbolizing the qualities of true friendship: steadfastness, equilibrium, and endurance. The

founders believed that friendships, like gyroscopes, should remain constant and balanced through life's ups and downs.

The formation of a GYRO Club in Edmonton was first talked about by Reginald Henry and Harry Fuller in the early months of 1921. An organizational meeting was held at the Hudson's Bay building in April 1921.



Hudson's Bay Building

At this meeting, the plan and idea of a Gyro Club was fully discussed, and the formation of the Gyro Club of Edmonton was decided upon. Twenty-three gentlemen were in attendance.

So, who were these 32 men who attended the charter meeting of the GYRO club of Edmonton in 1921? They were young men under the age of 35 who represented many of the business professionals operating in Edmonton.

Chartering of the new club took place on Friday, July 29th, 1921, at the Hotel Macdonald.

One of the first things to come before the club was the following "Objective": On August 9th, 1921, only 11 days after receiving their charter, it was decided to provide "Playgrounds for the Children".

Though they were established primarily as a friendship club, the members thought they would like to become involved in Edmonton's growth. The club capitalized on the popular notion that society should focus more on children.

The motto of Gyro was "Power, Poise and Purpose" which were high ideals, but when translated by the Edmonton Club into "Playgrounds for the Children", it was a realistic one.

On the 19th of August 1922, only thirteen months after club chartering, Bert Huff led a Playground Parade to officially open Patricia Park, Gyro Playground #1, now Giovanni Caboto Park.



Playground No. 1 Patricia Park

On June 7, Playground #2, 1924 Kitchener Square was opened at 114 St. and 103 Ave. Playground No.3, Tipton Square opened two weeks later at 109 St. and 81 Ave. Nine Gyro playgrounds were built before they were turned over to the City of Edmonton's Park's and Recreation Department in the late 1940's.

Gyro International and the Gyro Club of Edmonton have shown remarkable resilience, adapting to changing times while staying true to their core mission of promoting fun and fellowship. For more than a century, these organizations have brought people together, offering a sense of community and connection that's rare in today's fast-paced world.

While Gyro has public figures celebrated for personal achievements, it has been sustained by ordinary individuals who have done extraordinary things for friendship and community.

Members are proud of the relationships they've formed, many of which last a lifetime, and that's seen as the most significant impact of Gyro. And have fun doing it.



Scott Brisbin photo

President George Schuller

Thanks to the Sherwood Park Gyro Club for hosting a first-class Founders Night event!

"Fast Fred"

Upcoming Events:

Luncheon Meeting, Mill Woods Golf Course, Woodvale Clubhouse,
Mixed Event, Tuesday, November 5th.

Speaker: Dr. F.W. Armstrong

Topic: Medical assistance in dying (MAID)

Team Leader: Doug Armstrong

Luncheon Meeting, Mill Woods Golf Course, Woodvale Clubhouse,
Tuesday, November 19th.

Speaker: Rod Macleod

Topic: 100-year History of the University of Alberta

Team Leaders: Leon Lubin and Allan Warrack

Annual Christmas Dinner and Party, Mixed Event, Derrick Golf and
Winter Club,

Tuesday, December 3rd.

Team Leader: Chuck Gerhart

Luncheon Meeting, Mill Woods Golf Course, Mixed Event, Woodvale
Clubhouse, Tuesday, December 17th.

Speaker: Karen Cantine, Silver metalsmith artist - Future Vision of
Metalcraft.

Team Leader: Georg Schuller