



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.15, July 29, 1921

President-[John Boyd](#), Past President-[Ari \(Dutch\) Hoeksema](#),
Vice-President-[Sam Gruden](#), Secretary-[Barry Walker](#), Treasurer-[Gary Campbell](#), Directors-[Cliff French](#), [Jack Little](#), [Jim Lochhead](#), [John Mann](#)
Database Administrator-[John Ross](#), Gyrolog Editor-[Fred Schulte](#)

JUNE 2012

Those celebrating their birthdays in June are **Warren Garbutt** on the 9th and **Tony Mazzuca** on the 11th. Those celebrating their wedding anniversaries in June are **Ken and Barbara Willan**, 46 years on the 4th; **Walter and Kay Yakimets**, 53 years on the 6th; **Roger and Janet Russell**, 52 years on the 11th; **Larry and Carol Dobson**, 45 years on the 17th; **Cliff and Kathryn Revell**, 42 years on the 18th; **Ron and Marlene Ramsey**, 52 years on the 24th and **Jack and Sylvia Little**, 43 years on the 28th.

We acknowledge the resignation of **Ken Bowes** who has been unable to attend our luncheon meetings on a regular basis due to travel and other commitments. Ken was sponsored by Ron Ramsey and joined our club in 2008. We wish **Ken and Ruth** all the best in their future endeavours.

President John Boyd welcomed 29 Gyro's and two guests to our **June 5th** Luncheon Meeting held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club. The singing of Cheerio was led by **Ari "Dutch" Hoeksema** and the Grace was presented by **John Mann**.

President John treated us to some Scottish humour regarding death in a poem that he authored.

WISDOM IN THE SNOW

In the garden below, and made of snow,
Two snow-folk were fashioned with pride.
A tall round fellow, with a smile so mellow,
With his snow lady by his side.

But this smiling pair, kept us all unaware,
Of troubled thoughts tumbling within.
Winter's cold blast, will not ever last,
All things thaw with coming of Spring.

From coal-black eyes they watched the skies,
For the high honking geese returning.
By Nature's design, it's Spring's first sign,
And it kept their minds a churning.

"I know it will come," said his snow-white chum,
"But I'm only a little down-hearted."
And she added with glee, "I'm going to be free,
From this old carrot's smell at last parted"

We all of us stand, some hand in hand,
On the platform of life's railway station.
Where trains wait, some early some late,
For that final unknown destination.

So be like our snowmen, as they faced their dread omen,
Of that last inevitable trip,
Don't let it niggle, just hae a wee giggle,
And from Laughter's big jug take a sip!

J.J. Boyd Edmonton
25 March 2009

President John introduced our two guest speakers from the **Pilgrims Hospice Society**. **Debra Burkett, Executive Director** obtained her BSc. in Social Work and gained some practical experience on Vancouver Island before coming to Edmonton. Deb started right at the beginning in 1994 with Pilgrim's Hospice. Helen Hays and **Marion Boyd** were founding board members of the hospice.

Pilgrims Hospice Programs offer support to those living with life threatening or life limiting illness, to their families, caregivers and the bereaved. Hospice Care is a concept of support intended to improve quality of life by promoting choice and independence.

The Hospice Programs offered are:

The **Adult Respite Day Program** provides weekday support for adults living with a life limiting or a life threatening illness and their caregivers. Support includes nursing care, companionship, social, spiritual and emotional care, recreational activities as well as caregiver respite. Under the direction of a Licensed Practical Nurse, trained volunteers provide support focused on care and compassion and the needs of the clients and their caregivers.

Adult Bereavement Services provides support to those grieving the loss of a loved one. Group support, individual supportive counselling and outdoor walking are offered.

The **Home Hospice Visiting Program** supports adults with life limiting illness in their homes, hospitals or care facilities. Trained volunteers offer caregiver relief as well as social interaction, emotional support and companionship.

Expressive Arts Program for Grieving Children, Teens and Families

In group settings, participants engage in activities such as art, music, puppetry, movement and writing to explore the grief journey in a healthy supportive atmosphere. Individual support is also available on an ongoing basis.

H.U.G.S. Help, Understanding & Grief Support for families caring for a child with serious medical needs. families may access in home respite care as well as support for healthy siblings.

Our second guest speaker was **Doug McLaughlin, Director of the Hospice Fund**. He advised that the hospice has seven employees and 70 trained volunteers who provide daytime programs at the hospice and in-home visitation. Edmonton needs a 24/7 free standing facility. Red Deer has a community free-standing hospice and

Calgary has six free-standing facilities with 88 beds that can accommodate 1000 people annually. The Pilgrims Hospice Society has plans for a 16 bed hospice in Edmonton and the project will require all of the political and financial support that can be garnered. In the past 18 years, the Pilgrims Hospice has served 2400 people. The present operation can help 10 clients daily in the day program and eight in their homes.

A typical day starts at 9:30 am with different volunteers each day with the same clients. There is music, lunch, speakers/comedians. There is a recreation focus that is client driven to achieve a home away from home. The annual budget is \$780,000.

Chuck Gerhart thanked our speakers for a very informative presentation.
Val Pohl was the winner of the Free Lunch draw.

It is with regret that we acknowledge the passing of **Allan Clifton McClure** in Winnipeg at the age of 84 years. Al was sponsored by **Chuck Genion** and joined the Edmonton Gyro Club in 1979. He served as President in 1986-1987 and was an avid golfer and curler. Al and Bette established the company named **Ringbinder** in Edmonton. Al spent many years working on the Gyro Hockey Pool with Harry and Ruby Mills. After Harry passed away, Al and Bette looked after the Hockey Pool for many more years. They moved to Winnipeg in the summer of 2004 to be closer to their children. Al and Bette were married for 62 years.

The **GYRO INTERNATIONAL CENTENNIAL CONVENTION** was held in Cincinnati, Ohio June 12-17 at the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza. President **John and Marion Boyd**; **Marty, Shirley Larson** and their daughter **Marcia Kashani**; **Ari and Kathryn Hoeksema** and **Fred Schulte** and his daughter **Jill Hastings** were in attendance. Our group attended the Cincinnati Reds vs. Cleveland Indians ML Baseball game on Wednesday evening, June 13th. along with a crowd of 27,000 noisy fans. The golf tournament was held on June 14th and President John Boyd was a member of the team with second lowest score.

The Gyro conventioneers travelled by bus to the Hofbrauhaus in the Town of Newton on the Kentucky side of the Ohio River on Thursday evening, June 14th for the **Beer Garden Welcoming Reception and Dinner**. On Friday evening, the group travelled back to Newton to board the paddle wheeler, Cincinnati Belle for a **Ohio River Cruise and District I Convention**.

The Saturday morning Business Meeting dealt with a number of issues related to the financial health of GYRO International. One of the practical problems facing the international office is cash flow. Two months after the beginning of the current fiscal year, there is \$38,000 in outstanding dues from various clubs. A variety of notification methods will be tried this year to deal with outstanding dues.

The most contentious issue discussed at this business meeting was the previously approved motion to eliminate the **3rd Vice-President of Gyro International** at the beginning of the 2013 fiscal year. An amendment to the Gyro International Constitution would be required to allow this change. The associated yearly costs for the 3rd VP position are approximately \$5000 in travel costs for two conventions. Many delegates spoke in favour of keeping the 3rd VP position for training and continuity reasons. In addition many believed that this was the wrong solution to deal with the budget shortfall. The actual out of pocket costs for the Executive positions are much higher but many of the members only submit invoices for a portion of the costs or return some of the funds received.

A motion was made to eliminate the 3rd VP position and a show of hands by delegates and proxies showed a close vote. A formal roll call of every delegate and proxy holder was taken. Only those clubs that had paid their dues as of 8:30 am, June 16th were allowed to be considered. Thirteen clubs were eliminated because of dues in arrears. A two thirds majority of valid votes were required to pass the motion. The voting formula was weighted on the basis of the number of members in each individual club. The larger clubs were given more votes than the smaller.

The motion to eliminate the 3rd Vice-President was defeated.

The President's Dinner and Installation of International Officers was held in the Pavilion Room of the Hilton Netherland Plaza on Saturday evening June 16th.

Cincinnati was founded in 1788 by John Cleves Symmes and Colonel Robert Patterson. Surveyor John Filson named the new community "Losantiville". In 1790, Arthur St. Clair, the Governor of the Northwest Territory, changed the name of the settlement to "Cincinnati" in honour of the Society of the Cincinnati, of which he was a member. The Society derived its name from **Cincinnatus**, Emperor of Rome, 454 B.C.

Cincinnati was incorporated as a City in 1819 and constructed a steam-powered drinking water plant on the Ohio River in 1821. The introduction of steam navigation on the Ohio River in 1811 and the completion of the Miami and Erie Canals helped the city grow to 115,000 residents by 1850.

In 1818, Elisha Mills opened the first hog slaughterhouse. Pork was packed in brine-filled barrels and salt pork became a U.S. food staple. By 1829, the world began to regularly refer to the Ohio meat-packing town by the nickname "Porkopolis". The derogatory name made fun of the frontier city and its distasteful meatpacking industry. In response, some entrepreneurial citizens gave pigs wings, turning the disparaging label into symbol of civic pride. In 1988, during Cincinnati's Bicentennial celebrations, flying pig sculptures were erected on four riverboat smoke stacks in the Riverfront Park area. Since then, Cincinnati has continued to embrace the flying pig and other colourfully decorated ceramic pigs which adorn downtown squares and river valley parks.



The Ohio River was a major water transportation benefit to the City of Cincinnati but by the 1850's, it also proved to be major barrier for north-south commerce. Civil Engineer, **John A. Roebling** was invited to Cincinnati in 1854 to design the first passenger/railway bridge to connect what is now Covington, Kentucky and Cincinnati, Ohio. The height and design of the bridge were debated by local politicians and river boat owners who were concerned about safety and restrictions to the height of smoke stacks on their boats. The financing of the new bridge also proved to be a major issue. By 1861 at the beginning of the Civil War, there was also fear that a new bridge would allow an easy invasion by southern Confederate armies. By 1863, work recommenced on the bridge after initial foundation work had started back in 1856. The new design suspension bridge which was the longest in the world at 1,057 feet was opened to passenger traffic in December 1866. Construction officially ended in July 1867.

John Roebling and his son Washington would later become famous for the design and construction of the **Brooklyn Bridge** which was completed in New York City in 1883.

The Cincinnati Gyro Club was the fourth club and received its charter in 1916. It is now the oldest club in District I, as well as having the most members. Current membership is now approximately 120 and they have received an award this year for inducting the most new members. The club has a minimum age of 25 and there are many father/son members.

Thanks to the Cincinnati Gyro Club for staging a first-class Centennial Convention!

President **John Boyd** welcomed 33 Gyros and five guests to the June 19th Luncheon Meeting held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club. The singing of Cheerio was led by **Cliff French** and the Grace was presented by **John Boyd**. **David Burnett** introduced his son's **Rob** and **Andrew**. **Jack Little** introduced his guest **Tracy Deslaurier** and **John Mann** introduced his guest **Don Whidden**.

David Burnett introduced our guest speaker, **David Trew, Executive Director, North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance**. David graduated in 1970 from the University of Guelph with a BSc. in Limnology and worked in Scotland on the Clyde River from 1971-74. In 1974 he joined the provincial Fisheries Branch as a Professional Biologist. In 1976, he joined the Alberta Department of Environment and was directly involved in the monitoring of water quality on Alberta lakes and rivers. He has been the author of numerous water quality reports on lakes and



**Looking South from Cincinnati to Covington, Kentucky
Ohio River John A. Roebling Suspension Bridge, Completed in 1867**

rivers in Alberta and the Mackenzie River in the North West Territories in his 31 year career with Alberta Environment.

In 2007, David assumed his new role with the Watershed Alliance. The North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) is a multi-stakeholder watershed planning partnership that was formed in 1997. The NSWA was incorporated as a

non-profit society in 2000 and now provides a forum for sharing information about issues affecting the North Saskatchewan River watershed in Alberta.

The Society has seven staff with a budget of \$500,000 cash and 500k through in-kind support of office space from the City of Edmonton.

In 2005, the NSWA was appointed by the Government of Alberta as the Watershed Planning and Advisory Council for this river basin. As one of the partners under *Water for Life: Alberta's Strategy for Sustainability* (2003), the NSWA was given a mandate by the government to prepare an Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP). The IWMP will provide watershed management advice to address issues raised by stakeholders and to achieve the three goals of the Water for Life Strategy: safe, secure drinking water; healthy aquatic ecosystems; and reliable, quality water supplies for a sustainable economy.

The North Saskatchewan River Basin (NSR) is 57,000 square kilometers in area and 640 km long. Most of the water is generated in the Brazeau, Cline, Ram and Clearwater sub-basins. There are 12 sub-basins, 20 counties and 1.2 million people in the basin. The counties have a lot of influence and must be supportive for the goals to be achieved. The NSR Basin is a complex watershed; less than 2% of the annual flow is generated from the melting of glaciers. However, glacier melt is significant in July and August. Only 3% of the annual flow is used in Alberta, while the remaining 97% flows into Saskatchewan. The Brazeau and Bighorn Dams and their reservoirs have increased the winter flows of the North Saskatchewan, resulting in improved water quality. EPCOR is very supportive of watershed planning and operates the E.L. Smith and Rossdale drinking water plants which supplies water to a majority of the municipalities in the Edmonton Region. There has been a huge reduction of phosphorus in the river below Edmonton in the last 20 years. The water quality below Edmonton is not much different than that at Devon upstream of the city. There is however, growing evidence that water quality is being affected by prescription drugs and other chemicals that are flushed down toilets in residential homes.

A report entitled *Integrated Watershed Management Plan for the North Saskatchewan in Alberta* was scheduled to be released on June 20th.

Fred Schulte thanked David Trew for a very well organized and informative presentation. The Free Lunch draw was won by **Roger Russell**.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, July 3rd

Speaker: Remi St. Pierre, legal expert on Wills, Trusts, Planning and Tax

Topic: The "Un-Will"

Contacts: Val Pohl and Tony Mazzuca

Annual Gyro/Gyrette Golf Tourney, Tuesday, July 31st, Legends Golf Course

Tee Times: commencing around 1:00pm

Golf Format: Modified Texas Scramble, 9 holes

Cost: \$60 for golf and BBQ Dinner, \$30 for dinner only

Prizes are needed!

Contacts: The Walker's and Russell's.

GYRO District VIII Convention, Canmore, Alberta, August 23-26.

Hosted by the Gyro Club of Calgary.

Registration Fee: \$430/couple, \$215 single

Convention Information: www.gyroclubofcalgary.com

Gyro/Gyrette Corn Roast and Bocce Tournament, Malmo Community Hall, Tuesday Evening, August 28th

Location: 11525-48 Ave.

Time: Bocce 4:00 pm, Dinner 6:30

Corn, Chicken, Salad and Dessert

Cost: \$15 per person, cash bar for beer and wine

Contacts: Roger Russell, David Burnett and friends.

Celebrating 100 years of Gyro
1912 – 2012

Friendship in the Mountains



GYRO DISTRICT VIII CONVENTION

AUGUST 23 TO 26, 2012

CANMORE ALBERTA

HOSTED BY THE GYRO CLUB OF CALGARY

Steve Denny
CHAIRMAN

Robert Lane
REGISTRATION



www.gyroclubofcalgary.com