THE GYROLOG THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

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Meeting held on **Tuesday, January 22, 2008**
Royal Mayfair Golf Club

President **Jack Brown** welcomed 26 Gyro's to a winter wonderland type of day in Edmonton. **Larry Dobson** led Cheerio and **Dick Nichols** asked the blessing.

Our President introduced and welcomed our guest speaker **Georges Pleau.**

Mort Morter reported that **Bryce Van Dusen** is recovering from some minor surgery. **Gordon Rennie** is suffering from a bad cold and **David McNaughton** continues to deal with back pain.

Fred Schulte, on behalf of Chairman **Allan Warrack** reported on the work of the **Benevolence Fund Committee.** The Executive Committee met on January 16th, 2008 and received the final report from the Benevolence Fund Committee. Your Executive accepted the report of the Committee and recommends to the membership that it be discussed and considered for approval at the luncheon meeting to be held on February 19th, 2008. A three page handout describing the history of benevolent activities in the Gyro Club of Edmonton and an Executive summary with recommendations was provided to members in attendance.

The following Notice of Motion is provided for consideration on February 19th.

Motion Recommendation—Edmonton GYRO Club Membership:

That the Gyro Club of Edmonton Benevolence Fund be fully dispensed by a donation to the Edmonton Community Foundation, Donor Designated Fund category, Field of Interest—Lee Community Playspace Fund.

Sam Gruden formally introduced our guest speaker, **Georges Pleau,** Senior Vice-President and Chief Actuary, AIG Life of Canada.

Mr. Pleau began his presentation with a discussion of **Reinsurance.** Reinsurance is insurance purchased by a primary insurance underwriter in order to reduce some of the insurance company's exposure to risk. Reinsurance coverage is purchased to cover broad categories of risks or to cover a specific risk. Reinsurance companies work by spreading risks throughout underwriting pools. Each pool member receives a percentage of pool revenue as income and accepts responsibility for a percentage of pool losses.

The number of companies specializing in reinsurance has shrunk from 13 in 1990 to 5 in 2007 due to mergers and changing market conditions. Life insurance underwriters use reinsurance to transfer risk, to limit claims due to catastrophic events, to enter new product lines, for surplus management purposes and to enhance profits.

Mr. Pleau then spoke about **Foreign Travel life Insurance** underwriting. Ratings are based on planned travel or past travel over a 12 month period. Insurance is generally available to those individuals that are 70 years or younger. Risk is declined if planned travel exceeds three years. There are also a number of uninsurable categories: Missionary, Military, Peace-Keeping, Government Diplomat, Foreign Aid Work and Journalism.

Foreign travel life insurance is provided because longer-term visits expose the traveler to that nation's endemic hazards such as:

- War, civil unrest or terrorism
- Aviation and motor vehicle accidents
- Disease or reduced access to medical care
- Concerns over the security of blood supply
- Crime, corruption and fraud
- Environmental factors

Countries around the world are grouped into four risk categories:
Category A, 8 weeks or less; Category B, 8 weeks to under 6 months; Category C, 6 months up to three years; Category D, Uninsurable risks.
There are a number of countries such as Mozambique, Somalia, Haiti, Bangladesh, Burma (Myanmar), Iran, Iraq and the West Bank where some or all of the categories are not insurable.

There were 27 active Canadian Life Insurance companies operating in 2007 compared to 71 in 1990. The reduction in the number of companies is due to mergers and a few bankruptcies.

Dick Nichols thanked the speaker for an informative presentation and the free lunch draw was won by **Fred Schulte.**
Thanks to the team of **Sam Gruden, Dick Nichols** and **Gord Robertson** for organizing this luncheon speaking event.

Dick Nichols reported on the results of the Gyro Hockey Pool.

Game 10 January 10			Winners First Period	Second Period	Final
Oilers vs. Coyotes					
First	**3**	**0**	**Bruce Foy**	**Jack Ellis**	Terrie Ellis
Second	**5**	**1**	**Roy Bennett**	Justin Bergevin	Joanne Snihurowych
Final	**5**	**2**	Unsold	Unsold	Unsold

Game 11 January 20					
Oilers vs. Thrashers					
First	**0**	**0**	**Jack Brown**	**Mike Matei**	Jennifer Foy
Second	**2**	**1**	Gerard Parker	Marjorie Fairbridge	Kelly Russell
Final	**4**	**2**	Unsold	Unsold	Unsold

UPCOMING EVENTS

There is no luncheon meeting on February 5th!

Gyro/Gyrette Valentines Party,
Tuesday Evening February 12th, 2008
"Peace, Love & Rockn Roll"
Mayfield Dinner Theatre
Buffet Dinner served at 6:00 pm and the show starts at 8:00 pm
Cost $63.00 per person
Contact: **Larry Dobson 444-5111 Guests are welcome!!**

February 19, 2008 Luncheon Meeting
Royal Mayfair Golf Club
Business Meeting: Discussion of proposed donation of Benevolence Funds to the Edmonton Community Foundation and new member autobiographies.

*Gentleman, our annual **Gyro Bocce Tournament,** is scheduled for **Monday, March 3rd** beginning at 5:00PM at the **Italian Cultural Centre**, 14230 - 133 Ave. This will be a casual evening of great Italian cooking along with some casual Bocce. If you have never played Bocce, this is a great introduction to the game. Members of the St. Albert Gyro Club will also be joining us, so please mark you calendars. Cost is $35.00 per person without wine, $45.00 with wine. Please contact **Mike Matei** at 414-2514 if you plan to attend, or would like more information.*

District VIII Interim Convention
March 14-16, 2008
Fairmont Hot Springs, B.C.
Rooms have been blocked off for Gyro's until January 16th
For Convention applications, please contact **Jack Brown**

March 18, 2008 Luncheon Meeting
Royal Mayfair Golf Club
Speaker: **Dr. Laurel Strain,** Director, Alberta Centre on Aging who will speak on the Centre for Gerontology Fund and the 2008-2008 undergraduate and graduate scholarships. This endowment is funded by the Gyro Club of Edmonton.

Tuesday Evening, April 1st, Elections Night
German Canadian Cultural Association
8310 Roper Road

District VIII Convention
August 7-10, 2008
Prestige Lakeside Resort and Convention Centre
Nelson, British Columbia.

Some New Bull, Fred Schulte