



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.15, July 29, 1921

**President-Sam Gruden, Past President-John Boyd,
Vice-President-John Mann, Secretary-Barry Walker, Treasurer-Gary Campbell,
Directors-Cliff French, Ari Hoeksema, David Dyck, Len Stevens
Database Administrator-John Ross, Gyrolog Editor-Fred Schulte**

FEBRUARY 2014

Those celebrating their birthdays in February are **Dick Nichols** on the 8th, **Ken Willan** on the 9th and **Jack Ellis** on the 25th. Those celebrating their wedding anniversaries are **Bruce and Bronwyn Swanson**, 36 years on the 8th; **Sam Gruden and Bea McKenzie**, 23 years on the 14th and **Larry and Rosa Wang**, 48 years on the 26th.

SECOND POSTING

Peter Carter, a former GYRO, has applied to rejoin our club. **Peter** and his wife **Eileen Kuhl** reside at **13510-100 Avenue, T5N 0H9**.

Their telephone number is **780-488-2403** and email address is **peter.carter@shaw.ca** Peter is a tour coordinator and Owner of **PAC Tours INC.** and is proposed by **Mike Matei** and **John Ross**.

SECOND POSTING

Bob Kerrison, a former member of both the Calgary and Edmonton Gyro Club's has applied to rejoin our club. **Bob** and his wife **June** reside at **37 Grosvenor Blvd, St Albert, T8N 1P3**. Their telephone number is **780-459-8616** and email address is junebob@telus.net **Bob** is a semi-retired retailer at All Tucked In and is proposed by **Marty Larson** and **Mike Matei**.

President Sam Gruden welcomed 28 Gyros and two guests to the February 4th luncheon meeting held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club.

Walter Yakimets introduced our guest speaker, **Dr. Allan Offenberger**, Professor Emeritus of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Alberta. He received his B.A.Sc. and M.A.Sc. degrees (1962, 1963) from the University of British Columbia and Ph.D. degree (1968) from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His research for more than 40 years has been on the development of high power lasers and their application to inertial fusion energy research. He is currently co-chair of the **Alberta/Canada Fusion Energy Program**.

Fusion vs. Fission - *Fusion* is produced by combining particles (typically isotopes of hydrogen), which then create energy plus new products. Depending on the material - such as iron or special steels - only the target chamber's walls would become radioactive, and be classed as low-level waste. Walls made of silicon carbide would not be radioactive. By contrast, *fission* is produced by splitting heavy uranium atoms to release nuclear energy. It produces high-level radioactive waste.

Scientists in California are close to achieving the first "burn" of a hydrogen fuel pellet that within a year or two will likely prove to the world that the process that powers the sun can technically become

Earth's future source of inexhaustible energy. Extraordinary temperatures of 100 million degrees are needed to achieve the momentary combining- or fusing - of particles such as deuterium and tritium. In the process, two new products- neutron and helium- are produced, along with a large amount of energy. The peppercorn-sized fuel pellets must be "confined" by either magnetic or laser systems for that instant. To be a commercial success, the whole process has to happen at 600 times per minute, in the same way an internal combustion engine repeats the fuel compression and explosion phases to work.

Right now, scientists at the National Ignition Facility (NIF) in Livermore, California are receiving energy back from the fuel during their single fuel test shots. The results vary as they make subtle adjustments to the timing and energy input with each new shot. The world is watching the NIF and many other countries have major fusion projects underway. The first prototype power plants should be built by 2040, or sooner if a technology race develops among the current major players; the U.S. Europe, Russia, China, Japan and South Korea.

All of the current fuel sources in the world are finite but the successful development of fusion power would provide unlimited energy!

Dr. Offenberger worries that Canada will be left behind. Canada is now the only major country not involved in a national program of fusion research at an internationally competitive level, after dropping support in the 1990's for the new projects that existed then. Offenberger, who retired in 1995 as head of the Alberta fusion research program which did pioneering work in lasers and plasmas, now hopes the province will get involved. He is part of a team organized by the Alberta Council of Technologies that visited eight U.S., European and Asian facilities last summer. The team is now preparing a report for Alberta Energy that will make suggestions about the kinds of research and commercial opportunities that might interest the province.

Edmonton has a national nanotechnology centre and it could become involved in material science related to fusion. There is also a lot of computer research capability in Alberta, and Canada has nuclear engineering expertise because of its development of the Candu (Canadian deuterium uranium) fission reactors. The first step for the province would be to declare that fusion research is a priority.

Bill Taylor thanked Dr. Offenberger for his very interesting and plain English presentation.

Dave Cooper, reporter for the **Edmonton Journal** wrote an extensive article on January 3, 2014 entitled : *Fusion about to burst upon us, but will Canada be in research loop?*

This editor is indebted to Mr. Cooper for his detailed article used as a reference on the fusion topic.

It is with regret and sadness that we acknowledge the death of **Hugh Moncrieff** at the age of 77 on February 9th at the Grey Nuns Hospital in Edmonton after a brief illness. Hugh was born in Winnipeg on September 29th, 1936 to Nancy and Ernie Moncrieff. He graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1961 with a Bachelor of Arts and the University of Western Ontario with an MBA in 1963. Hugh pursued many business interests finally settling on a successful career in real estate.

Hugh married his life partner of almost 50 years, Paula Bridgeman on May 16th, 1964. He is survived by his loving wife and their children, daughter Carla Marlyn of Calgary and son Hugh (Jennifer) of Winnipeg. He leaves behind his two brothers, William and John Moncrieff of Winnipeg. Hugh was an exceptional athlete be it hockey, basketball or golf. He was also a wonderful storyteller and raconteur and loved to play the piano by ear and lift the spirits of those around him with his conversation and personality.

Hugh, a member of the Edmonton Gyro Club since May 2012 will be missed!

A merry group of Gyros and Gyrettes gathered for an early celebration of **Valentine's Day** on February 11th at the **Mayfield Dinner Theatre**. This evening featured the opening production of the adventure thriller, **DEATHTRAP**. "One of the longest running Broadway thrillers in history, this clever play offers a rare and skillful blend of suspense and humor...a murder mystery so wickedly good" that the director promised an evening of laughs, thrills and (gulp) even gasps.

Thanks to **Gerry Glassford** and **David Winfield** for organizing this special evening event.

Health of the Club: **Andy Friderichsen** has experienced a number of falls recently and was hospitalized for a few days on one occasion. He is now resting and recuperating at home.

Petra Hagemann has a new email address: phageman@telus.net

Dick Nichols reports on the results of the Hockey Pool.

Game 13 February 7 Winners First Period Second Period Final

Oilers vs. Devils

First	1	1	Art Bergevin	Art Bergevin	Luke Snihorowych
Second	1	1	Tami Stewart	Tami Stewart	Barry Walker
Final	1	2	Gyro	Gyro	Gyro

Game 14 February 27 Winners First Period Second Period Final

Oilers vs. Wild

First	0	1	Mike Matei	Mike Matei	Mike Matei
Second	0	2	Cliff French	Chuck Gerhart	Chuck Gerhart
Final	0	3	Care Mazzuca	Larry Dobson	Gyro

'Fast Fred'

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regular Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, March 4th

Ed Stelmach, former cabinet minister and Premier

Topic: A Vision for Alberta:

Contacts; Leon Lubin and Walter Yakimets

GYRETTE Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, March 11

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

Speaker: Denaë Barlott, nurse practitioner, Grey Nuns Hospital

Topic: Volunteering in Haiti

Contact: Shirley Larson

Special Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, April 1st

Club Executive Elections and

Speaker: **Tommy Banks**, former Senator and musician

Topic: The Senate's Current Notoriety.

Contact: John Boyd

GYRO International and District VIII Convention, Wallace, Idaho, June 15-22, 2014



PARTY AT THE DROP OF A BALL!

WHEN THE

WALLACE GYROS HOST

THE 2014 INTERNATIONAL
AND DISTRICT VIII CONVENTIONS

JUNE 15 - 22, 2014



**"Fun for Fun's Sake
and Friendship for
Friendship's Sake"**

COME JOIN THE WALLACE GYRO CLUB
CELEBRATE OUR 80th BIRTHDAY
WITH OUR 73RD LEAD CREEK DERBY
AT THE "CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE"

'There are no strangers here, only friends we haven't met!'