



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

President-Dunc Mills, Past President-Chuck Gerhart

1st Vice-President-Ron Trant

Secretary-Barry Walker, Treasurer-David Burnett,

Directors- Doug Armstrong, Ray Dallaire,

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

Gyrolog Editor-Fred Schulte

Club Website: www.edmontongyroclub.com

March 2022

Those celebrating their birthdays are **Alan Rusler** on the 3rd, **Sheldon Weatherby** on the 11th, **Barry Walker** on the 29th and **Ari “Dutch” Hoeksema** on the 30th.

Mike and Sharon Matei celebrated their 33rd wedding anniversary on the 18th.



We acknowledge the peaceful passing of **Marjory Fairbridge**, age 89, on February 7, 2022. She was resting comfortably at her Edmonton home with her children at her side. Marjory will not only be missed greatly by her family, but also by her many friends and the caregivers at Laurel Heights Retirement Residence.

Marjory was born on March 29, 1932, in Scholes, Yorkshire, England to Willie and Florence Pitchforth. She married Peter on September 6, 1952, and emigrated to Canada later that year, settling in Kentville, Nova Scotia. It was the start of a military life that would eventually see the family settle in Edmonton during the summer of 1970.

Marjory was the loving wife of the late **Peter Fairbridge**, and is survived by her eldest son, Paul (Lesley), daughter, Michele (Rick), and youngest son, Mark (Roberta). She was a grandmother to 10 grandchildren and 22 great grandchildren. Marjory was a true home maker. She loved to sing, garden, cook, go on trips in the RV, raise dogs, knit, host, and attend family gatherings. Marjory was an active member at Dayspring Presbyterian Church, she enjoyed attending Daughters of the Nile and Gyrette's, served as a Guardian for the International Order of Job's Daughters and was a frequent medal winner during her later years competing in the annual All Seniors Care Games at Laurel Heights Residence. Marjory was a big fan of Star Trek, she was an avid reader, and harbored an incredible knowledge of the history of the British monarchy.

A memorial service was held on Sunday, February 20, at Westlawn Funeral Home, Edmonton, Alberta.

Peter Fairbridge was sponsored by **David Burnett** in 2001 and served as a director from 2001 to 2004. He also served as Editor of the Gyrolog in 2006-07.



It is with regret and sadness that we acknowledge the passing of **Vicky Georgia Garbutt** on February 18, 2022. Vicky met **Warren Garbutt** when they were 14 years old, and they have been together for 68 years and were married on September 5, 1959. They travelled the world together. They raised three sons: Ron (Julie Clayton Coleton), Greg (Vivienne Bailey Cassie Brookie), and Tim (Darcy Megan Ryan).

Vicky loved her 7 grandchildren. She did so much babysitting, and Friday night sleepovers became a staple. Nana was always up to date with their lives. She had many dear friends through years of gourmet group, golf ladies league, McDonald's coffee, Gyrettes and churches (Dayspring Presbyterian, Riverbend United, Onoway Baptist) and at work at Laidley property management.

She was born to parents Birdie Fries and James Fries, on May 24, 1939, in Regina, Saskatchewan. Vicky's passing is also mourned by her sister Rhonda (Brad) and niece Jill (Chris Cassie Hailey).

A Christian Celebration of Life was held on March 3rd at the Derrick Golf and Winter Club.

Vicky was an active member of the Gyrettes since 2005 and she will be missed.



It is with regret that we acknowledge the death of **John Mann** in Lethbridge on February 23, 2022, at the age of 81.

John is survived by his wife Brigitte Mehlhorn, and his three children: Crystal (Heidi), Kevin (Christine) and Stuart. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Ivory, Makiah, Phoenix, Darren, Emily, and Cassie. John was predeceased by his wife, Gail, of 34 years.

John spent many years travelling the province while working with the Rural Electrification and Utilities Branch. The family enjoyed summers at the cabin, and family vacations such as trips to Hawaii and Disneyland. John was an avid golfer and could always find an excuse to fit in a game of golf.

John married Brigitte in 2019 and he relocated to Lethbridge. Brigitte was very supportive to John as he faced his illness. A small family memorial service was held in Edmonton on March 9th, 2022.

John was introduced to Gyro by **Allan Warrack** and was inducted into the Edmonton Gyro Club on December 19, 2006. He served as **President** in 2014-15. John was a true friend, and he will be missed.



John

Heidi

Brigitte

President Dunc Mills welcomed 21 Gyros to the March 1st luncheon meeting held at the Derrick Golf and Winter Club. **John Boyd** began the meeting with a welcoming tune on the xylophone. **Peter Carter** led the singing of Cheerio and **Doug Armstrong** presented a Robbie Burns Grace.

President Dunc spoke of his friend, **Bill Lewis** who was a lead columnist with the **Little Rock Gazette in Arkansas**. Bill passed on the following item which was read out.

AN AMAZING 2 LETTER ENGLISH WORD

A reminder that one word in the **English** language That can be a noun, verb, adjective, adverb, and preposition.
“UP”

This two-letter word in English has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that word is **“UP”**!

It is easy to understand **UP**, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake **UP**?

At a meeting, why does a topic come **UP**? Why do we speak **UP**, and why are the officers **UP** for election and why is it **UP** to the secretary to write **UP** a report? We call **UP** our friends, brighten **UP** a room, polish **UP** the silver, warm **UP** the leftovers and clean **UP** the kitchen. We lock **UP** the house and fix **UP** the old car.

At other times, this little word has real special meaning. People stir **UP** trouble, line **UP** for tickets, work **UP** an appetite, and think **UP** excuses. To be dressed is one thing but to be dressed **UP** is special.

And this **UP** is confusing: A drain must be opened **UP** because it is stopped **UP**!

We open **UP** a store in the morning, but we close it **UP** at night. We seem to be pretty mixed **UP** about **UP**!

To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of **UP**, look **UP** the word **UP** in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes **UP** almost $\frac{1}{4}$ of the page and can add **UP** to about thirty definitions. If you are **UP** to it, you might try building **UP** a list of the many ways **UP** is used.

It will take **UP** a lot of your time, but if you don't give **UP**, you may wind **UP** with a hundred or more.

When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding **UP**. When the sun comes out, we say it is clearing **UP**. When it rains, the earth soaks it **UP**. When it does not rain for awhile, things dry **UP**. One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it **UP** for now. ..my time is **UP**!

Oh... one more thing: What is the first thing you do in the morning and the last thing you do at night?

**U
P!**

President Dunc also read out a number of statements about **understanding engineers:**

To the optimist, the glass is half-full. To the pessimist, the glass is half-empty. To the engineer, the glass is twice as big as it needs to be.

What is the difference between mechanical engineers and civil engineers? Mechanical engineers build weapons. Civil engineers build targets.

The graduate with a Science degree asks, “why does it work?”

The graduate with an Engineering degree asks, “How does it work?”

The graduate with a Commerce degree asks, “How much will it cost?”

The graduate with an Arts degree asks, “Do you want fries with that?”

Normal people believe that if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

Engineers believe that if it ain't broke, it isn't sufficiently complex yet.

John Boyd was the winner of the Free Lunch draw.

President Dunc Mills welcomed 48 Gyros and Gyrettes to the March 15th **St Patrick's Day** Dinner held at the Derrick Golf and Winter Club.

Larry Dobson led the singing of Cheerio and Jim Lochhead presented the Grace.

We were treated to a wonderful buffet consisting of Lamb Guinness Stew, Hearty Shepherd's Pie, “Green Salad”, Pesto Roasted Fingerling Potatoes, Green Beans Almondine and Braised Cabbage.

President Dunc thanked **Cathy Johnson**, President of the Gyrettes and her able team of **Bronwyn Swanson** and **Carol Dobson** who prepared the spectacular Irish table centrepieces and supplied the song sheets.

John Boyd, also known as “Seamus O'Boyd” spoke of his five trips to Ireland with his wife **Marion**. Their first trip was on their honeymoon where they drove from Dublin, Scotland to Belfast, Ireland in a Volkswagen. While in Ireland, John and Marion visited the **Blarney Stone**, a block of Carboniferous limestone built into the battlements of Blarney Castle, Blarney, about 8 kilometres (5 miles) from Cork, Ireland. According to legend, **kissing the stone endows the kisser with the gift of the gab (great eloquence or skill at flattery)**.

One century back, The old-fashioned way was to hold people's ankles and then hang them upside-down **so they could kiss the stone**, but this practice came to an end when a traveler slipped free from his friend's grasp and hurtled down to his death.

Apparently, Mick Jagger of the Rolling Stones attempted to kiss the stone and his lips became stuck on the rock due to the cold temperature.

Ron Trant spoke of his trip to Dublin, where he and his wife Theresa rented a car and drove to Galway. They stopped at a pub and noted that there were no waiters and that you were expected to go the bar and order your drinks. Ron ordered two Guinness beers which were served only half full. Ron, then noted that other patrons were being served and his glass was still half full. He was advised that once the foam had settled they would top up their glasses.

Ron's ancestors were from Dovea, County Tipperary and his family came to Canada in 1905.

Larry "Francis" Dobson led the group in the singing of five Irish songs interspersed with various bits of humour:

Molly Malone

In Dublin's fair city.....

Gypsy Rover

The gypsy rover came over the hill....

Wild Irish Rose

My wild Irish Rose....

Danny Boy

Oh, Danny boy, the pipes, the pipes are calling...

Drunken Sailor

What will we do with a drunken sailor?....

President Dunc wrapped up the party with:

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind always be at your back.

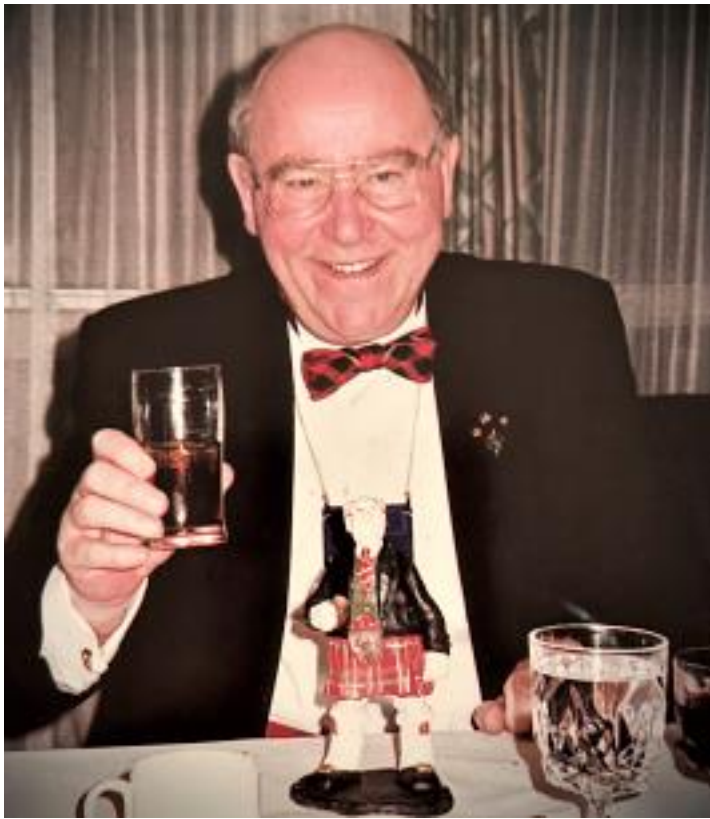
May the sun shine warm upon your face;

the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,

may God hold you in his hand.







Ian Douglas Greig
July 9th, 1941 – March 10th, 2022

Editor's Note:

*It was my privilege to know and enjoy the friendship of **Ian Greig**. As President of our Club, Paulette and I attended the Gyro International Convention in Calgary in 2006 and were entertained by the Stampede City Club musical presentation in which Ian was an accomplished singer and dancer.*

In June 2011, I attended the District VIII Convention in Wallace, Idaho. One of the highlights was the opportunity to sit in on the local shenanigans at radio station KWAL in nearby Osburn. The Wallace Gyro Club rented the use of the newsroom for the day, as part of the Annual Lead Creek Derby celebrations. Gyros were encouraged to sit in the news room and read out local ads and tell various jokes and other outrageous stories. Ian and I spent some quality time both on and off air. Ian's wife Joan joined us later in the afternoon and did a much better job of announcing and storytelling!

Dick Nichols reports on the **Hockey Pool Winners.**

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|---------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Game 11 February 2 | <u>Winners</u> | <u>First Period</u> | <u>Second</u> | <u>Final</u> |
| Oilers vs Capitals | | | | |
| First Period | 3 1 | Gary Campbell | Dan Hasinoff | Gyrettes |
| Second | 3 2 | Ken Korchinski | Jack Ellis | Gary Campbell |
| Final | 5 3 | Valerie Walker | Jacques LaFleur | Jack Little |

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|---------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Game 12 February 26 | <u>Winners</u> | <u>First Period</u> | <u>Second</u> | <u>Final</u> |
| Oilers vs Panthers | | | | |
| First Period | 1 2 | Sarra Dobson | Dunc Mills | Not Sold |
| Second | 4 2 | Gyro Benevolent Fund | Ted Ewanchuk | Sheldon Weatherby |
| Final | 4 3 | Everett Douglas | Mike Matei | Bruce Swanson |

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|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Game 13 March 5 | <u>Winners</u> | <u>First Period</u> | <u>Second</u> | <u>Final</u> |
| Oilers vs Canadiens | | | | |
| First Period | 1 2 | Gyro Benevolent Fund | Darren Read | Sharon Matei |
| Second | 2 3 | Jack Ellis | Not sold | Emma Hastings |
| Final | 2 5 | Myrna Gerhart | Samantha Molofy | Jenelle McManus |

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|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Game 14 March 12 | <u>Winners</u> | <u>First Period</u> | <u>Second</u> | <u>Final</u> |
| Oilers vs Lightning | | | | |
| First Period | 1 0 | Care Mazzuca | Barbara Walker | Val Pohl |
| Second | 2 0 | Marlene Ramsey | Sheldon Weatherby | David Ross |
| Final | 4 1 | Jim Lochhead | Bruce Swanson | Walter Yakimets |

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|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Game 15 March 19 | <u>Winners</u> | <u>First Period</u> | <u>Second</u> | <u>Final</u> |
| Oilers vs Devils | | | | |
| First Period | 1 1 | Dunc Mills | Leon Lubin | Sharon Matei |
| Second | 2 1 | Alan Rusler | Not sold | Jim Lepp |
| Final | 6 2 | Marty Larson | Bev Russell | Craig Russell |

“Fast Fred”

Upcoming Events

Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Derrick Golf and Winter Club, April 5th
Club Officer Elections and approval of proposed 2022-23 General Fund
Budget.

Saturday Evening Dinner Banquet, Mixed Event, Derrick Golf and
Winter Club, April 23rd.
Executive Officers and Directors Installation

Gyro District VIII Convention, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Sept. 22-25, 2022