

April 17, 2001

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Editor

Allan Douglas Phone/Fax 433-5409 On a busy day at the Mayfair, President Bruce welcomed 22 Gyros, 2 guests and the guest speaker to our alternate room on the lower level. President Bruce introduced his returning guest, Tom Chambers and Bryce Van Dusen introduced his friend Harry Nash.

Dave Duchak reported on the last game of the hockey pool for this year. For game 20 the Oilers visited the Canuks and with a one all tie after the first, Walter Pelletier and Mike Matei each won \$10. Edmonton led 3:1 after two and Lorraine Buray, Bill Agnew and Andrea Thomas collected \$15. The winning score was 4:2 and Yvette Stroppa and Brain Scranton held the winning tickets.

Past President Gordon Robertson reported on the election of Directors. Roy Bennett and Bob Lippe have completed their two-year terms. Thanks guys for your service to the club. Dick Nichols and Ted Hagemann are going into the second year of their terms. Gord announced that Peter Fairbridge and Fred Schulte had agreed to let their names stand. Walter Yakimets moved that nominations cease so they will become the two new directors.

On April 10th, Alice Glassford and Bonnie O'Dwyer organized a successful mixed evening at the Casino Yellowhead. We have a great meal of buffalo followed by instructions on some of the games. Then we were all turned loose with a role of quarters to make our fortunes. Some of us didn't blend in very well with the regulars. Sharon Matei got so excited about seeing quarters drop out that others came over because they thought she had won the car. Most of us just watched our quarters disappear without recognition of any type.

Fred Schulte introduced our guest speaker, Bonnie Jensen, the Regional Coordinator for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. The CDIA is responsible for health and safety regarding plants, animals, consumer labeling, food safety and for fish in the Atlantic and Pacific regions.

As you know from the news, there are significant efforts to keep foot and mouth disease out of Canada. There is a new, highly contagious strain that has infected most of the world over the past few years. The primary concern about the disease is the economic impact because when there is an outbreak a country cannot export products until it has been free of the disease for at least one year.

Infected animals excrete the virus for 5 days before the symptoms are evident and it is rapidly spread to all parts of the country through routine livestock movements. The virus is difficult to control and the only solution is slaughter of infected, or threatened, animals. The financial impact would be horrendous and the CFIA has prohibited the import of animals and animal products. The disease started in Britain with imported meat that was infected. There is a heightened surveillance of travelers to infected countries and public awareness of the risk is very important.

In Britain some sheep farmers have been breeding species of sheep for generations to improve them and they now have been slaughtered.

David Burnett thanked the speaker on our behalf.

For those of you who (like me) neglected to put the names and information about the new members in your roster, here is the list.

Peter Butler and his wife **Margaret** live at 140 Highwood Dr. in Devon. T9G 1X1 Their telephone number is 987-4581

Peter Fairbridge and his wife **Marjory** live at 3105 110A St. in Edmonton, T6J 3E9. Telephone 435-5629.

Rick Korzan and his wife **Arlene** live at 380 Renwinkel Close in Edmonton, T6R 1Y8. Telephone 434-0995

Gerrit Halbersma and his wife Mary live at 9 Merrywood Cres. In Sherwood Park, T8A 0M8. Telephone 464-5936.

Bob Moore and his wife **Mary Lue** live at 590 Kananaskis Place in Devon, T9G 2C9. Telephone 987-5504.

Wayne Tingley and his wife Paulette live at 1502 – 10130 114 St., Edmonton, T5K 2S6. Telephone 488-5467.

Let us hope that we will continue to need to write new names in our rosters.

It appears that Bridge Travel Services Inc. is planning a cruise in November. I noted with interest that the lowest price for an outside cabin is \$2,605. That is a mere \$1,880 more that an almost identical cruise cost Elaine and I in February when **Peter Carter** and his

group made our arrangements. (We left from Miami and stopped at Ocho Rios rather than Costa Maya).

Did you see the Journal story about Lester Allison demonstrating his latest invention, a protective cup for cricket players? It was equipped with springs to absorb the momentum of the cricket ball. He said "I originally tested it by repeatedly hitting myself in the groin with a bat, but I am now ready to demonstrate its efficacy by inviting all comers to bowl directly at my Groin". Poor old Lester is in hospital recovering from severe groin injuries.

The first name drawn for a free lunch by the guest speaker was **Allan Douglas** – and that's no bull.

Upcoming Events

On April 25th, the Edmonton Gyro Club Bridge windup will be held at the Edmonton Golf & Country Club. Cocktails at 6:00 dinner at 6:30. All are Welcome even if you just come for dinner. The cost is \$28. Contact **Mike Matei** to participate.

The Quad Club Installation will be held on May 5, 2001 at the Chateau Louis. Cocktails are at 6:30, dinner at 7:30 and the installation at 9:00. The cost is \$65 per couple or \$35 single. The meal will be prime rib with Yorkshire pudding and baked Alaska.

Valerie Walker advises there will be a mixed bocci evening on Thursday June 7th at the Italian Centre near Commonwealth Stadium. The cost for dinner, including wine is \$25 per person. As you know this is a new event, let's make it a success.

The annual Red Deer Golf Tournament is scheduled for Thursday June 14, 2001. **Mike Matei** will be providing further details. He would appreciate assistance with organizing the event.

The Gyro International 2001 convention will be from Thursday July 12 to Sunday March 15, at the Wenatchee Convention Hotel and Centre in Wenatchee Washington. **President Bruce** informed us that the cost for golf is \$60.

The annual Gyro/Gyrette scramble is scheduled for Westridge Golf Course at 1:00 p.m. on July 25th. Dinner will follow at the Van Dusen ranch. The price is \$18 per person for golf and \$18 per person for dinner. Come and enjoy either or both. The organizers are **Barry Walker** and **Roger Russell**.

The District VIII Convention will be held August 9 to 12 in Castlegar B.C. Larry **Dobson** reported that he has booked at the Best Western and that the rate is only \$70 per night rather than the advertised rate. You may wish to book now.

The Quad Club Golf Tournament is scheduled for September 7, 2001. Allan Warrack is our representative in the planning.

Same Old Bull Allan