



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

President-Jack Bowen, Past President-Ron Trant

1st Vice-President-Georg Schuller

Secretary-Barry Walker, Treasurer-Larry Dobson

Directors- Bruce Foy, Jim Lepp, Sheldon Weatherby, Martin Marshall

Peter Carter (Ex-Officio) Dunc Mills (Ex-Officio)

Database Administrator-Chuck Gerhart, Gyrolog Editor-Fred Schulte

Club Website: www.edmontongyroclub.com

SEPTEMBER 2023

Those celebrating their birthdays are **Gerry Glassford** on the 5th, **Bruce Swanson, 75 years young** on the 8th, **Georg Schuller, 80 years** on the 15th, **Michael Mant** on the 18th and **Peter Carter** on the 25th.

Those celebrating their wedding anniversaries are **Doug and Maryella Armstrong**, 67 years on the 1st; **Georg Schuller and Karin Conradi**, 8 years on the 1st. and **Ron and Tehresa Trant, 35 years on the 9th** and **Bruce and Margaret Foy**, 63 years on the 24th.

Thoughts of People Past 70

This is too good not to share. I asked a friend who has crossed 70 and is heading towards 80 what sort of changes he is feeling in himself? He sent me the following:

1. After loving my parents, my siblings, my spouse, my children and my friends, I have now started loving myself.
2. I have realized that I am not "Atlas". The world does not rest on my Shoulders.
3. I have stopped bargaining with vegetable and fruit vendors. A few pennies more is not going to break me, but it might help the poor fellow save for his daughter's school fees.
4. I leave my waitress a big tip. The extra money might bring a smile to her face. She is toiling much harder for a living than I am.
5. I stopped telling the elderly that they've already told that story many times. The story makes them walk down memory lane and relive their past.
6. I have learned not to correct people even when I know they are wrong. The onus of making everyone perfect is not on me. Peace is more precious than perfection.
7. I give compliments freely and generously. Compliments are a mood enhancer not only for the recipient, but also for me. And a small tip for the recipient of a compliment, never, NEVER turn it down, just say "Thank You."
8. I have learned not to bother about a crease or a spot on my shirt. Personality speaks louder than appearances.
9. I walk away from people who don't value me. They might not know my worth, but I do.
10. I remain cool when someone plays dirty to outrun me in the rat race. I am not a rat and neither am I in any race.

11. I am learning not to be embarrassed by my emotions. It's my emotions that make me human.

12. I have learned that it is better to drop the ego than to break a relationship. My ego will keep me aloof, whereas with relationships, I will never be alone.

13. I have learned to live each day as if it were my last. After all it might be the last.

14. I am doing what makes me happy. I am responsible for my happiness, and I owe it to myself. Happiness is a choice. You can be happy at any time, just choose to be!

Source: Taboola Feed

President Jack Bowen welcomed 40 Gyros and Gyrettes to the Annual **Corn Roast and Bocce Tournament** held at the Derrick Golf and Winter club on September 5th.

The Bocce tournament commenced at 4pm with 22 players on six teams ably managed by **Bruce Foy** and **Ken Willan**. Play paused and we were treated to a feast of barbequed chicken, smokies, hamburgers and corn with all the trimmings.

Governor Dunc Mills presented **Myrna Gerhart** with the **Ivy Rennie Trophy Ladies Low Net Winner**. Myrna was part of a contingent of golfers who played at the Crystal Ridge Golf Course in Okotoks on July 28 as part of the **District VIII Convention hosted by the Gyro Club of Calgary**.



Myrna and Dunc

Your Editor was honoured to receive two awards from Gyro International.

The George H. France Award in recognition of Outstanding Authorship of an Article for the GyroScope 2022-2023 and the Best Club Bulletin-Large Club District VIII 2022-23.

George H. France was a newspaper man by trade and became the associate editor of the **GyroScope** in 1980 and permanently in 1981. *“As the driving force behind the GyroScope, George helped one and all to put together wonderful articles for the publication which may not have made great profit for his printing company but made him feel proud of the work and GYRO. He could take a mishmash of* The GYROLOG September 2023

information and pictures and make a great story of it.” “In 1997, when George passed away after a six-month illness, there already had been discussion as how to honor this man’s service. The award is given to the best article printed in the GyroScope each year. It has gone for editorial content, good club entries and can touch on any aspect making GYRO a continuing success as George always wanted it to be.”

Source: Centennial Edition, GyroScope April, May, June 2012.

The first recipient was Allan R. McFadden, Lethbridge, Alberta in 1997.



Dunc Mills

Fred Schulte

The bocce resumed after dinner, and it became a race against time as rain clouds quickly developed. The final two teams were forced to call it quits when the winners reached four points. The ensuing torrential rains sent everyone inside.



The Winners
Ken Willan
Shirley Larson
Bronwyn Swanson
Marty Larson



The Runners Up
Sheldon Weatherby
Tony Mazzuca
Roger Russell
Dick Nichols

Thanks to **Bruce Foy, Ken Willan and Sam Gruden** for organizing a first-class event!

Immediate Past International President Peter Carter opened with a tune on the Xylophone and **Vice-President Georg Schuller** welcomed 21 Gyros to the September 19th luncheon meeting held at the Derrick Golf and Winter Club.

Val Pohl led the singing of Cheerio and **President Georg** presented the Grace.

Governor Dunc Mills advised that major renovations to the Derrick Club banquet area kitchen are planned for **January and February 2024**. Our Club will need to find an alternate meeting location for this period.

Some preliminary reviews of alternate luncheon locations, such as the Royal Glenora Club, the University Club and the Highlands Golf Course reveal expensive room rental charges on top of the basic luncheon cost including service charges and GST. The Mill Woods Golf Course has free parking and does not have a room charge. The luncheon meal prices appear to be reasonable. Further review of luncheon options will be undertaken.

We will also need to decide our meeting requirements this fall for the Derrick Club 2024 contract.

Gary Campbell introduced our speaker, and fellow Gyro, **Allan A. Warrack, '61 BSc. (Ag), MS, PhD, Alberta MLA 1971-79**. Allan was elected in the Three Hills Constituency in 1971, won with 8 votes and was known as "landslide Warrack."

*The Progressive Conservative Party under the leadership of **Peter Lougheed** won 49 of the 75 seats in the August 31, 1971, election, defeating the 35-year reign of the Social Credit party.*

Allan advised that there were 22 cabinet ministers in Peter Lougheed's Progressive Conservative government including **Helen Hunley**, who later served as Lt. Governor. I was appointed **Minister of Lands and Forests** which included Fisheries, Special Areas, Grazing and Parks.

Parks were not located where most people lived. The creation of an urban park in the **Fish Creek area of Calgary** was the initial response to this issue. Edmonton had already created the initial phase of the Capital City Park on the North Saskatchewan River but also wanted funding to extend this park.

The provincial government ultimately provided funding for urban park development in all of Alberta's cities.

The development of **Kananaskis Country**, allowed improved public access and the development of golf courses and hotels.

There was yawning gap in our forest resources area. The Hinton Pulp Mill used timber to make pulp and paper products. This timber could also be used to make **dimensional lumber**. Ultimately lumber mills were established in the Hinton, Whitecourt, and Grande Prairie areas with government incentives. There was also a big demand for **sport fishing** from Albertans and tourists.

There is still a lot of **crown land** that is used for cattle grazing and the debate about this use of public land has lasted for 50 plus years.

In my term as a Minister of the Crown, **face to face meetings with Premier Lougheed were the norm**. Not a lot of paperwork was generated! Each MLA was required to submit a net worth statement yearly. Lougheed always had a backup plan approach to government business. One Minister would cover for another as Acting Minister.

Ministers appointed in the first 4-year term (1971-75) were eligible for new Ministries in the second term if they were under the age of 45. Those that were over 45, were passed over. The rationale was that no Conservatives were elected south of the Bow River in the first four-year term, and it would be a priority to elect MLAs from Southern Alberta with potential Cabinet responsibilities.

Dick Johnson won a landslide victory in the Lethbridge riding in 1975 and was appointed Minister of Municipal Affairs.

I was re-elected in 1975 with a much larger majority and appointed **Minister of Utilities and Telephones**.

*Alberta Government Telephones was the telephone provider in most of Alberta from 1906 to 1991. The Edmonton District Telephone Company was established in 1904. As Edmonton expanded their boundaries by annexation, **Edmonton Telephones** wanted to extend their service area which conflicted with other telephone and cable providers. This was one example where conflict needed to be resolved for the public good.*

Ultimately, the Alberta government privatized AGT and formed Telus Communications in 1991 and Telus acquired Ed Tel in 1995.

Rural Natural Gas Co-ops were a very successful program.

By the early 1970's, approximately 25 gas co-ops had come into existence in rural Alberta.

In 1971, Conservative Peter Lougheed made a campaign promise to "expand the provisions of natural gas to farms at a reasonable cost."

*By the beginning of 1973, natural gas may have made it into 79% of Alberta households, but in rural Alberta less than a quarter of homes had been hooked up to natural gas. In April 1975 the provincial government created the **Rural Gas Program** to support natural gas service to all towns, villages, and farm communities in rural Alberta.*

*Today the **Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops**, supply over 25 million gigajoules of gas annually to more than **165,000 customers and own over 100,000 km of pipe lines**¹. Unlike investor-owned utilities, rural gas co-operatives are free to set their own competitive pricing and answer to their members¹. The Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops is an umbrella organization representing 80-member natural gas distribution utilities². Source: Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops Ltd.*

Alberta continues to have the largest rural gas distribution system in the world.

The **Alberta Heritage Trust Fund** was instrumental in the twinning of Highway 43 to Grande Prairie.

No liquor was allowed in MLA offices. Our approach was: **be on time, be prepared and be sober!**

Jim Lepp thanked Allan for his entertaining presentation and presented him with a copy of *Giants of the Pacific Northwest. The Hunt Family Totem Poles* signed by author, Doug Armstrong.



Georg Schuller

Allan Warrack

Leon Iubin was the Free Lunch Winner.

Fast Fred

Upcoming Events:

Joint Men's Bocce Tourney Sherwood Park/Edmonton Gyro Clubs

Wednesday, October 4th, Italian Seniors Centre, 9111-110 Ave.

Time: 5:00 pm

Cost: \$50

Team Leaders: Mike Matei and Augie Annicchiarico

Joint Founders Night-Edmonton/Sherwood Park Gyro Clubs

Tuesday Evening, October 17th, Derrick Golf and Winter Club.

Speaker: Dr. Lorne Tyrrell

Team Leaders: Bruce Swanson and Fred Schulte