



# ***THE GYROLOG***

**THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON**

**Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921**

**President-Jack Bowen, Past President-Ron Trant**

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President-Georg Schuller**

**Secretary-Barry Walker, Treasurer-Larry Dobson**

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

**Peter Carter (Ex-Officio)**

**Database Administrator-Chuck Gerhart, Gyrolog Editor-Fred Schulte**

**Club Website: [www.edmontongyroclub.com](http://www.edmontongyroclub.com)**

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## **MAY 2023**

Those celebrating their birthdays are **Hank Mottl, 70 years** on the 12<sup>th</sup>, **Len Evenson** on the 13<sup>th</sup>, **David Burnett** on the 18<sup>th</sup> and **Allan Warrack** on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Those celebrating their wedding anniversaries are **Sheldon and Judy Weatherby, 52 years** on the 15<sup>th</sup>; **Fred and Paulette Schulte, 55 years,** on the 18<sup>th</sup>; **Jack and Steffany Bowen, 29 years** on the 21<sup>st</sup> and **Chuck and Myrna Gerhart, 58 years** on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**John Boyd** played an introductory tune on the xylophone and **President Jack Bowen** welcomed 27 Gyros and our guest speaker to the May 2<sup>nd</sup> luncheon meeting held at the Derrick Golf and Winter Club.

**Ken Korchinski** led the singing of Cheerio and **President Jack** gave the Grace.

Ken Korchinski introduced our guest speaker, **John G. Williams. Member of Parliament (Canada) (retired). President Emeritus of the Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption (GOPAC).**

John was a Member of Parliament for St. Albert for 15 years from 1992 to 2008, serving his entire parliamentary career on the Public Accounts Committee, eight years as chair.

He founded the Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption in 2002 and served as chair until 2008, its CEO until 2013, and subsequently as President Emeritus and Special Envoy.

Mr. Williams is an accountant (CPA) and sat on the board of a development agency and a research institute focused on international development. He was also a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda council on Corruption. He lives in Edmonton, is married, and has three children.

John provided some insight on the workings of Parliament. **Business doesn't take place on the floor of the House! Question Period is drama!**

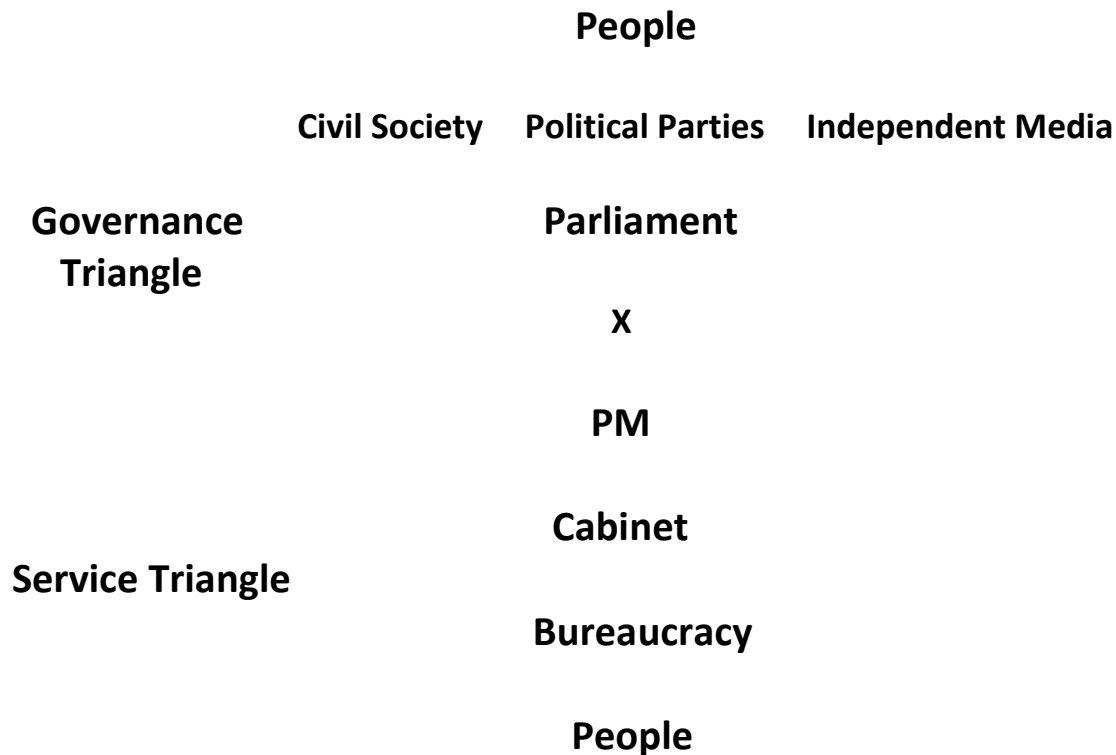
The media's job in the Press Gallery is report on the issues of the day and provide some honesty.

Losing the Confidence of the House when money bills are discussed and voted on is always a concern of the ruling party. Every day the government must be on their toes and have a majority of members in attendance in case of a vote of non-confidence.

The Public Accounts Committee deals with all departments. **Dealing with the Public Accounts Committee is not a walk in the park for the bureaucracy!** Deputy Minister's are held accountable for their mandate.

A Conference of provincial Public Accounts Committee's is held annually. One year, the Deputy Minister of Finance of one of the provinces set the agenda for the conference. **This was not appropriate!**

John introduced the **Hourglass Concept of Governance and Accountability.**



Many other countries don't practice accountability.

The **Somalia affair was a 1993 Canadian military scandal**, prompted by the beating to death of Shidane Arone, a Somali teenager, at the hands of two Canadian soldiers participating in humanitarian efforts in Somalia. The act was documented by photos and brought to light internal problems in the Canadian Airborne Regiment. Ultimately, the Chief of Defense Staff resigned. This is an example of parliament working for you.

If the middle class is doing well, accountability is in place.

Foreign aid doesn't get to people who need it in countries without accountability.

In the fall 2002, the constitution was approved for the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption.

Deficits in Canada are out of control! Currently the federal government debt is \$1.2 trillion. In the USA, the debt is \$34 trillion.

In the early 1800's Russia invaded Sweden which led to its bankruptcy. Reforms were initiated by the Swedes and over time the country prospered and is one of least corrupt areas in the world.

Is there hope for the future?

We need an educated public and people need to vote!

**President Jack** thanked our speaker for his thought-provoking presentation. John Williams was presented with a copy of *Giants of the Pacific Northwest. The Hunt Family Totem Poles*, authored by our own Doug Armstrong.

**Roger Russell** was the winner of the Free Lunch draw again!



**Jack Bowen**

**John Williams**

**President Jack Bowen** welcomed 15 Gyros and our guest speaker to the May 16<sup>th</sup> luncheon meeting held at the Derrick Golf and Winter Club.

**David Burnett** led the singing of Cheerio and **President Jack** presented the Grace.

Jack gave his quote of the day; *“You are never too old to learn something stupid.”*

**Doug Armstrong** introduced our guest speaker, **Dr. Trevor Theman**, who was a student of Doug’s in medical school. Dr. Theman practiced as a general surgeon in Edmonton from 1980-98 and then moved to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta and was the Registrar from 2005-2018.

There were 4.8 million Canadians without a family doctor prior to Covid-19 and it is much worse now! Access to Family Medicine Primary Care is in crisis.

Dr. Theman indicated that **Health Care is Messy!** All the intersecting players must be considered. What are we trying to achieve? **A High Performing Health Care System!** Presently, we have no Board or CEO for Alberta Health Services. Who governs primary care? No one!

We need accountability measures. Primary care, how well is it being delivered?

**The focus has been on acute care!** The best systems around the world usually have very good primary care. Access is key!

More medical school positions do not mean an increase in family physicians. There are several factors; the feminization of medicine has reduced the number of hours worked, Canadian medical graduates tend to be very mobile, 90% of medical graduates get their first choice which in most cases this does not include family medicine, many family physicians start their careers doing locums and working in hospitals and overhead costs are up to 50% in family medicine clinics.

Family medicine clinics are currently almost impossible to sell because of the high overhead costs and workload pressures. **A team-based primary care approach in clinics** could provide a much wider range of expertise and allow physician’s more flexibility in their work hours.

**Family Medicine must be the pinnacle of our health care system!**

**How do we fix this problem! Plan, Framework and Goals.**

All parties need come together to provide team-based family care.

Dr. Theman was the chair of the board of the **Health Quality Council of Alberta (HQCA)** from November 2018 until January 2020.

The work of the council formed the basis of Bill 201 *the Public Health Care Delivery Standards Act*, introduced by Rachel Notley, leader of the official Opposition and given First Reading on December 1, 2002.

The purpose of the legislation was to ensure thar Albertan's have "consistent, reliable and timely access to high-quality, publicly administered and publicly funded essential health services by requiring that these essential health services to be delivered to patients within a fixed and reasonable period of time".

The bill was defeated on Second Reading December 13, 2022.

**Len Evenson** thanked our speaker for his timely and thought-provoking presentation. Dr. Theman was presented with a copy of the book *Giants of the Pacific Northwest. The Hunt Family Totem Poles* authored by Doug Armstrong.

**Val Pohl** was the Free Lunch draw winner.



**Dr. Trevor Theman**

**IN CASE YOU DIDN'T ALREADY KNOW THIS LITTLE TIDBIT OF WONDERFUL TRIVIA.....**

**ON JULY 20, 1969, AS COMMANDER OF THE APOLLO 11 LUNAR MODULE, NEIL ARMSTRONG WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO SET FOOT ON THE MOON.**

**HIS FIRST WORDS AFTER STEPPING ON THE MOON,**

**"THAT'S ONE SMALL STEP FOR MAN, ONE GIANT LEAP FOR MANKIND," WERE TELEVISED TO EARTH AND HEARD BY MILLIONS.**

**BUT, JUST BEFORE HE RE-ENTERED THE LANDER, HE MADE THE ENIGMATIC REMARK "GOOD LUCK, MR. GORSKY."**

**MANY PEOPLE AT NASA THOUGHT IT WAS A CASUAL REMARK CONCERNING SOME RIVAL SOVIET COSMONAUT.**

**HOWEVER, UPON CHECKING, THERE WAS NO GORSKY IN EITHER THE RUSSIAN OR AMERICAN SPACE PROGRAMS.**

**OVER THE YEARS, MANY PEOPLE QUESTIONED ARMSTRONG AS TO WHAT THE 'GOOD LUCK, MR. GORSKY' STATEMENT MEANT, BUT ARMSTRONG ALWAYS JUST SMILED.**

**ON JULY 5, 1995, IN TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA, WHILE ANSWERING QUESTIONS FOLLOWING A SPEECH, A REPORTER BROUGHT UP THE 26-YEAR-OLD QUESTION ABOUT MR. GORSKY AND**

**THIS TIME HE FINALLY RESPONDED BECAUSE HIS MR. GORSKY HAD JUST DIED, SO NEIL ARMSTRONG FELT HE COULD NOW ANSWER THE QUESTION.**

**HERE IS THE ANSWER TO**

**"WHO WAS MR. GORSKY?":**

**IN 1938, WHEN HE WAS A KID IN A SMALL MID-WESTERN TOWN, HE WAS PLAYING BASEBALL WITH A FRIEND IN THE BACKYARD.**

**HIS FRIEND HIT THE BALL, WHICH LANDED IN HIS NEIGHBOR'S YARD BY THEIR BEDROOM WINDOW.**

**HIS NEIGHBORS WERE MR. AND MRS. GORSKY.**

**AS HE LEANED DOWN TO PICK UP THE BALL, YOUNG ARMSTRONG HEARD MRS. GORSKY SHOUTING AT MR. GORSKY,**

"SEX! YOU WANT SEX?! YOU'LL GET SEX WHEN THE KID NEXT DOOR WALKS ON THE MOON!"

## It broke the place up.

NEIL ARMSTRONG'S FAMILY CONFIRMED THAT

THIS IS A TRUE STORY.

### The GYRO CLUB of EDMONTON FUND 2023

A formal fund agreement was signed with the Edmonton Community Foundation on April 15th, 2008, in line with our club history of financially supporting children/youth and seniors.

The GYRO Club of Edmonton Fund was established with a grant of \$16,500 from our club's longstanding Benevolence Fund. The annual interest generated by our fund would be used to provide playground equipment to upgrade those Edmonton inner-city community play spaces that are fully open to the public. An additional \$4000 was donated in 2013.

Our fund has continued to grow within the larger Edmonton Community Foundation which currently has an endowment base of \$560 million and has provided more than \$370 million in grants to hundreds of charities since 1989.

#### The GYRO Club of Edmonton Fund

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Balance, beginning of 2022 | \$60,134 |
| Donations received         | \$2,524  |
| Balance, end of 2022       | \$60,268 |
| Available to grant in 2022 | \$6,505  |

We acknowledge the resignation of **Daryl Dyck** on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. We wish Daryl and Anita all the best going forward.





## Gyro Club of Edmonton

**What is “Gyro”?** Do you remember the **Gyro Playgrounds** that were built in the 1900’s throughout Edmonton... well, that’s us.

**Gyro** is an international organization (Canada & USA) that promotes fellowship and friendship. It was started in 1912 and the **Gyro Club of Edmonton** was formed in 1921 and is the oldest of the three Gyro Clubs in the Edmonton area.

Our Club meets for a luncheon meeting, at the **Derrick Golf & Winter Club**, on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month. Meetings start at 12:00 noon and are finished by 1:30 p.m. Club members arrange for guest speakers who address a variety of relevant and interesting topics. In 2023, our annual membership fee was \$260, and our lunches are an additional \$32 each. Also, there is no attendance requirement in Gyro, so if you can’t make it, no problem. That said, we encourage your active participation, when possible, to partake in the fellowship and friendship.

In addition to our regular luncheon guest speaker *meetings*, we have other social events throughout the year, such as: a golf tournament, a curling bonspiel, and a bocci ball competition; we might add... you don’t have to be an expert in any of these as the intent is to enjoy and socialize! Our spouses / partners are included in many evening events throughout the year, as are guests. Typically, these *include* Christmas and Valentine dinners, a fall ‘Corn Roast’ and ‘Bocci Ball’ evening. There is, also, an active bridge club of twenty couples who play every month from September through March, concluding the season with a wind-up banquet.

**Gyro** is a men’s club, however, there is a **Gyrette** ladies club that many of our spouses / partners belong to. The Gyrettes have monthly luncheon meetings – September through June – and like the Gyros, their purpose is to foster friendship.

**What we aren’t.** We are not a service organization. However, our club typically raises up to \$2,000 annually to support local charities – money that is generated by our hockey pool.

We hope this brief overview explains what **Gyro** is all about. If you are interested in joining our club and / or have any questions about membership, in the Gyro Club of Edmonton, please do not hesitate to ask the friend who introduced you to our wonderful organization.

Yours in Gyro friendship, the Gyro Club of Edmonton.

[www.EdmontonGyroClub.com](http://www.EdmontonGyroClub.com)

April 2023

## **Upcoming Events:**

**Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Derrick Golf and Winter Club, June 6<sup>th</sup>.**

**Speaker: Arnold Janz**

**Topic: Our Environmental Debt in Alberta's Oilfields.**

**Team Leader: Jim Lepp**

**First Day of Summer Mixed Event, Derrick Golf and Winter Club,  
4-8 PM June 20<sup>th</sup>.**

**Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Derrick Golf and Winter Club, July 18<sup>th</sup>.**

**Speaker: Christopher Jass, PhD.**

**Topic: Ice Age Fossils in Alberta**

**Team Leaders: Bruce Foy and Fred Schulte**

**Gyro District VIII Convention, Thursday, July 27-Sunday July 30**

**Deerfoot Inn & Casino Convention Centre, Calgary**

**Ken Baker, Convention Chairman, Calgary Gyro Club.**

<http://www.calgarygyroclub.com>

**Gyro International Gyro District VII Convention, "Summer  
Nights & Northern Lights" August 23-27 Winnipeg**

<http://winnipeg.gyro.org/>