



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

**President-Chuck Gerhart, Past President-Bruce Swanson,
1st Vice-President-Dunc Mills**

**Secretary-Barry Walker, Treasurer-Gary Campbell,
Directors- Ron Trant, Doug Armstrong, Ray Dallaire,
Dan Hasinoff, Fred Schulte (Ex-Officio)**

**Database Administrator-John Ross, Gyrolog Editor-Fred Schulte
Club Website: www.edmontongyroclub.com**

AUGUST 2020

Those celebrating their birthdays are **Bruce Foy** on the 1st, **Val Pohl, 75 years** on the 4th; **Walter Yakimets, 85 years** on the 4th; **Eric Spink** on the 6th, **Taras Chmil, 70 years** on the 16th and **Peter Gommerud** on the 29th. Those celebrating their wedding anniversaries are **Len and Jackie Evenson**, 53 years on the 5th; **Eric Spink** and **Christina Gauk**, 19 years on the 18th; **Allan and Jean Warrack**, 58 years on the 18th; **Fred and Helen Otto, 60 years** on the 19th; **Leon and Jo-Anne Lubin, 55 years** on the 23rd; **Dan and Sandy Hasinoff**, 52 years on the 24th and **Peter Carter** and **Eileen Kuhl**, 16 years on the 29th.

Gyro International 2019-2020 Awards

1. Best Bulletin

- Small Clubs **Stampede City Gyroper- Editor, Ian Greig PIP**
- Medium Clubs **Canton Scope-Editors, Mike Goodson/Chris Snyder PIP**
- Large Clubs **Edmonton Gyrolog-Editor, [Fred Schulte](#)**
- Governors **Derm Jackman, District 8**

2. Best Website

- **Calgary Club** <https://www.calgarygyroclub.com/>

3. Expansion Awards

These awards are based on new members recruited in the fiscal year from May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020

- Small Clubs **Caloosa, FL**
- Medium Clubs **San Jose, CA**
- Large Clubs **Rochester NY and Camosun BC**

4. Ed Steinbacher Lifetime Achievement Award

This is in recognition of extraordinary, magnanimous, and perpetual service to the Gyro Fraternity of Friendship.

- **Mike McNally PIP, Buffalo, NY** received this award in March 2020.

5. Honor Key

- **Matthew Johnson, PIP, Olympia, WA** received this award in June 2020.

FIRST POSTING

George Schuller has applied for membership in our club. **George** and his partner **Karin Conradi** live at **13618 100 Ave, NW Edmonton, AB T5N 0H9**. His phone number is **780-454-2338** and email address is georgs@telus.net **George** is a self employed retired engineer. **Peter Carter** and **Leon Lubin** propose him.

President Chuck Gerhart welcomed 24 Gyros and one guest on **August 4th** to the first luncheon meeting held at the University (Faculty) Club since March 3rd. Covid 19 protocols were in place including the wearing of masks except while eating.

A recording of **Cheerio** was played, and **Heinrich Grosskopf** presented the Grace. **Ari Hoeksema** introduced his guest, **Ken Williams**.

International 2nd Vice-President Peter Carter asked **Taras Chmil** as sponsor of new member **Hank Mottl** if he would agree to support and encourage Hank to attend meetings and support him with the duties and responsibilities of Gyro. Taras agreed to this commitment and 2nd Vice-President Peter provided Hank with some information on the founding of Gyro in 1912. Hank agreed to support the principles of Gyro, attend meetings and support members of the Club, and was officially inducted into the Edmonton Club.

The usual tradition of shaking of hands with all members present was not possible but the group gave Hank an enthusiastic round of applause.



Hank Mottl

Taras Chmil

President Chuck introduced our guest entertainer, **Ari “Dutch” Hoeksema**, a member of the Edmonton Club since 2006 and served as President in 2011-12. Ari is the owner of Home H2O Systems which he established in 1984. He has also been a dealer of antiques for 50 years and a founding member of the Canadian Auctioneers Association.

Ari has been an **active Mason and Shriner for nearly 45 years**, Past President of the Clown Unit, Past Potentate, and a founding member of the Al Shamal Shriners. He is completing his 9th year on the Board of Governors of the Shriners Hospital in Portland, Oregon. Ari has entertained in the majority of the 22 Shriners Hospitals in North America.

He has been involved in visiting and entertaining **Kids for Cancer** (terminal) for many years and has used his ventriloquism skills to quickly establish comfort and confidence with the use of his two “friends” Sigmund Fraud and the **“Old Crow” Hazel Dean**. Ari indicated that most adults spend their time trying to see if the ventriloquist lips are moving instead of watching his friend. This is the first time that Ari has ever worn a mask and he said, “I don’t have to worry about my lips moving because you can’t see a thing”.

Ari and Hazel Dean, the Old Crow presented the famous **“Who’s on First”** comedy/burlesque routine made famous by Bud Abbott and Lou Costello in 1937.

The names given in the routine for the baseball players at each position are:

First base	Who
Second base	What
Third base	I Don’t know
Left field	Why
Center field	Because
Pitcher	Tomorrow
Catcher	Why
Shortstop	I Don’t Give a Darn or I Don’t Care

President Chuck thanked Ari for a very entertaining presentation.



The Old Crow and Ari Hoeksema

Fred Schulte introduced **Jack Bowen** who was sponsored by Bob Bahniuk and was inducted into our club in June 2016.

Jack is a retired member of the Loyal Edmonton Regiment which was founded in 1908.

Jack advised that his Bowen ancestors were Low Land Scots from the Saltscoat, Irvine region of Scotland. They came to **Pictou** (Nova Scotia) in the late 1700's. on his mother's side, William Hayman, a Highlander, fought with the British during the American Revolution. After four years of service, Hayman was given 100 acres of land.

Pictou Facts

- 15 Sept. 1773, Ship Hector, 189 passengers from Scotland, mainly around Lock Broom arrived after a rough and perilous journey.

- The town is called the birthplace of New Scotland
- 1660-Name of “la riviere de Pictou” was given to this harbour by Nicolas Denys (French Explorer)
- 1775 -53 families were living in the Township of Pictou
- 1793-Peter Grant opened the first school in Pictou
- The natives were called Mi’kmaq and were instrumental in helping the first Scottish settlers from the Hector survive in their new world.
- Pictou Academy was the first school in Nova Scotia where any student could attend regardless of their religion.



Ship Hector Replica-Pictou, Nova Scotia

I was born in Pictou on July 1, 1953, one of a family of 12, four brothers and six sisters (one died at birth). All my brothers and I served our country in the Canadian Army. I joined the **Nova Scotia Highlanders** in 1968, graduated from Pictou Academy in 1970 and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in the same year. I then married and moved out West in 1975.

I joined the **Loyal Edmonton Regiment** in 1975 and achieved the rank of Chief Warrant Officer. In 1986, I was appointed Regimental Sergeant Major and then retired in 1988, moved to New Zealand for two years and returned to Edmonton in 1990.

After returning to Edmonton, Jack took various courses from NAIT and the University of Alberta and tried his hand as a sand blaster, warehouseman, estimator, construction superintendent, construction manager, project manager and contracts manager. Jack also challenged the exam and became a Journeyman Carpenter.

He rejoined the Loyal Edmonton Regiment in 2000 and was promoted to Captain, Operations Manager, Acting Company Commander and Regimental Affairs Officer. He retired in 2013 after 33 years of service. Jack is currently President of the 49th Battalion, The Loyal Edmonton Regiment Association President and Editor of the forty-niner magazine.

Jack has remarried, has more children and a granddaughter. He is also involved in business ventures as a partner and owner.



Jack Bowen

One historical connection to the Edmonton Gyro Club was also revealed.

Brigadier James Curry Jefferson was Commanding Officer, **Loyal Edmonton Regiment**, Sicily, Italy in 1943 and achieved more responsible commands in the 2nd, 5th and 10th Canadian Brigades in Italy and England during the Second World War. **J.C. (Jim) Jefferson** joined our club on November 20, 1933 and after returning from his war service took on the responsibilities as **President in 1949-50** and then **District Governor in 1950**. Jim was listed as an employee of Northwestern Utilities from 1946-47 until 1966-67.

Bruce Foy thanked Jack for his detailed and informative presentation.

Dick Nichols was the winner of the Free Lunch draw.



Brigadier James Curry Jefferson
1906-1973

President Chuck Gerhart welcomed 21 Gyros and five guests to the August 18th luncheon meeting held at the University (Faculty) Club.

Daryl Dyck introduced his guests, **Justin Limpin, Randy Spencer, and Allan Hunspergier**. **Taras Chmil** introduced his guest **Bob Cameron** and **Peter Carter** introduced his neighbour and three-time guest **George Schuller**.

Cheerio was presented in audio form with the appropriate rapping of spoons.

Allan Warrack presented a two-part Grace in Latin and English using the University of Alberta motto *Quaecumque vera* “Whatsoever things are true”

International 2nd Vice-President, Peter Carter welcomed new member **Trevor Mowbrey** and co-sponsor **John Ross**. Peter asked John if he would encourage Trevor’s attendance at club meetings and events and promise to support him with the duties and responsibilities of Gyro. John replied in the affirmative. Peter spoke about the beginnings of Gyro in 1912 and the three young men, Paul Schwan, Gus Handerson and Ed Kagy who decided that the unity of their friendship was worthy of perpetuation. Peter then asked Trevor if he would follow the principles of Gyro, attend meetings, and support the members of the Edmonton Club. Trevor replied positively and received his pin and membership materials. Gyros welcomed Trevor with a resounding applause.



Trevor Mowbrey

Fred Schulte introduced **Sheldon Weatherby**, a Saskatchewan native who attended grades 2-12 in Prince Albert. He married Judy in July 1971 and moved to Edmonton. Sheldon was sponsored by **John Ross** and **Dick Nichols** and joined our club in May 2012.

Sheldon stated that he was born in Kinistino, Sask. and lived on a nearby farm for the first six years. The family moved to Prince Albert and he went to school there. I delivered the PA Herald newspaper for five- and one-half years, was paid 9 cents per customer per week. I saved enough to buy my first car, a 61 Vauxhall when I was 16. Sheldon spent a lot of time in the summer when he was young visiting his Uncle's farm. As a family, we travelled to visit relations in Saskatchewan, Alberta, and the North West Territories.

My father was a firefighter and worked shifts and my Mom was a nurse who also worked shifts when we were young. That made for interesting Christmas's; we usually had 20 to 22 visitors as my mom's parents lived in PA and her other siblings worked elsewhere. I attended Riverside Collegiate and participated in intra mural sports. At age 14, I started to work at Sherwin Williams Paint and Wallpaper store after school, Saturdays, and summers. In 1967 after I graduated from High School, I became Assistant Manager and Credit Manager at Sherwin Williams.

I left there in 1970 to work at the Prince Albert Pulp Mill. I transferred into the Steam Plant and studied by correspondence to become a Steam Engineer. At about this time, I met this cute little French girl my Dad had been telling me about. Her name was **Judy Brunet** and she went to High School with my sister at the Academy Presentation of Mary. We married a year and half later.

In 1973, Judy and I moved to Edmonton so I could take Instrumentation Technology at NAIT. Judy got a job working for Manpower and Immigration to support me in school. My summer job after first year was at the Gulf Refinery which allowed me to get a permanent job offer the moment I graduated. I became a Journeyman Instrument Mechanic and a certified Instrumentation Technologist. When I left Gulf, I was relief Foreman and an Analyzer Specialist.

Judy and I had our first daughter, Karen, in October 1977. In August 1978, I began teaching as an Instrumentation Instructor at NAIT.

In April 1981, we had our second daughter, Lindsay followed by our third daughter Michelle in May 1984.

In the fall of 1989 Judy had to support me again; this time to finish my Education Degree at the University of Alberta. My last student teaching session was at

Beaumont High School in 1990 for Dr. Paul Wozney and I helped set up Alberta's first "High Tech Lab" which consisted of Robotics and Hydraulics. In September 1996, I left NAIT and began my career at **Spartan Controls** as an instructor. I was coached by **John Ross** about Spartan and had almost 15 years as a Lead Instructor there; retiring December 31, 2010.

Judy and I belong to the Beaumont Dream Cruizers car club in Beaumont and enjoy participating in club events with our friends. In 1998, John Ross and I drove to Minneapolis/St. Paul for the Minneapolis Street Rod association Car show weekend. We drove down in John and Helen's 1968 Mustang GT convertible: what a trip! There were 9750 cars that were 1964 and older.

John always seemed to enjoy Gyros and when he invited me to a lunch in the fall of 2011, I was intrigued. The topics of the lunch meetings and the friendship of the members were remarkable. I was inducted into the Edmonton Club in May 2012.

Martin Marshall thanked Sheldon for his presentation and awesome contribution to instrumentation.



Sheldon and Judy Weatherby

Fred Schulte introduced **Dick Nichols** who was sponsored by **John Ross** and joined our club in 2000. He served as **Treasurer in 2002-03** and was **President in 2004-05** and took over management of our **Hockey Pool in 2006**.

Dick provided some family information to your editor which follows. *Dick's father **Herbert Edward Nichols** was born in Peckham, London in 1886, moved to Canada and took up a homestead in Clyde District, 50 miles north of Edmonton in 1907. Herbert Nichols married Grace Helen Stilborn in Pheasants Forks, Sask. in May 1935. There were three children, David Arthur, **Richard Edward**, and Margaret Grace. Herbert Nichols bred and exhibited pure-bred Percheron horses between 1920-32 and exhibited pure-bred horses, sheep, and swine at Edmonton, 1920-41. He gave up active farming in 1941 owing to failing health and moved to Edmonton. Herbert became Secretary of the Alberta Farmers Union and Editor of the A.F.U. Bulletin, 1941-46, during which time membership increased from 2000 to 22,000.*

Dick indicated that he was born in Edmonton, February 8, 1938 and lived on the farm in Clyde until 1941. I attended various schools and did paper routes, as I got older, I took on the job of gas jockey in the neighbourhood. When I graduated from High School, I found a job at Peterson Appliance Service. This job was interesting, as I quickly understood how the equipment worked and performed. My first employer went broke, so I caught on with Ritchie Electric and South Edmonton Radio. It was difficult to get better pay so I decided more education would help. I went to **Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT)** and took Radio and Electronic Technology. After two years, I graduated and received offers from Celanese in Edmonton and De Havilland in Quebec. I chose **Celanese** and got started quickly.

Other things were occurring apart from work, I met my future wife **Marilyn Macdonald** in the summer of 1961, and we got married the following November.

I was started in the engineering department to do the design and application of instrumentation systems that will operate parts of the plant more efficiently. Celanese was a large chemical plant for export and supplier to local secondary manufacturers. At that time, for every dollar of natural gas going in, \$11 went out, so accuracy can make a difference. Analyzers were incorporated into control systems to ensure quality of product. I was able to develop operating integration of analyzers to electronic process control to ensure the .!% accuracy of product quality.

After 10 years at Celanese, I got laid off due to financial problems in the U.S.

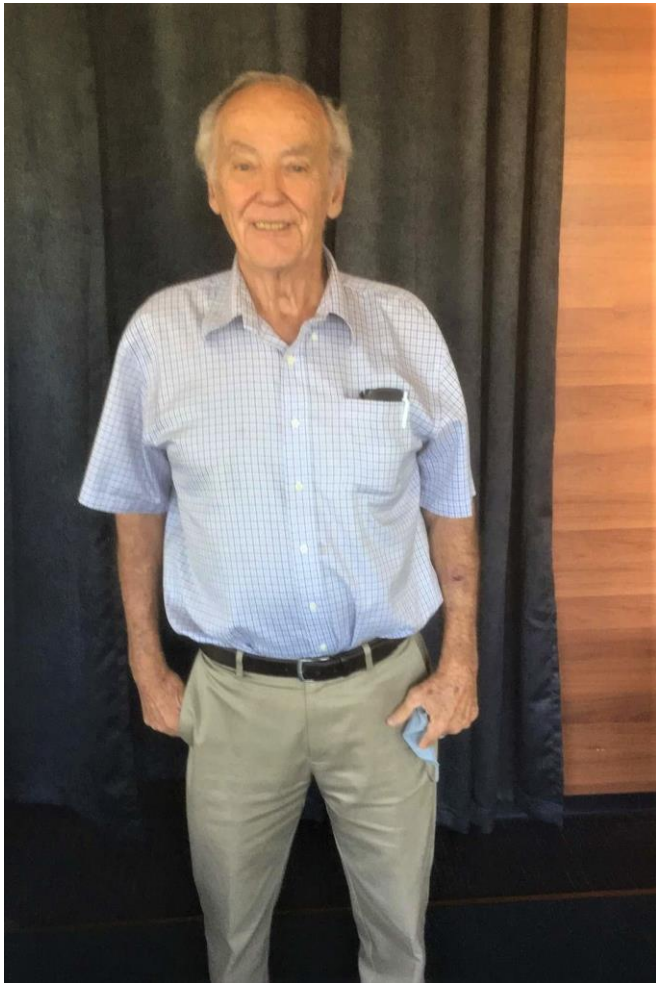
I then went to work at the Alberta Research Council on a project that was to develop controls for an experimental pipeline. The project was almost complete when I was invited to join Spartan Controls in November 1971. I provided technical support on electronic products in the shop and inside sales. By 1978, I was advanced to calling salesmen. One of my pleasures was finding new customers for the products we sold and expanding them to substantial customers. One of my favourite projects at Spartan was working with the University of Alberta to link their three major physical plants, steam generation, cooling water and electricity with a fibre optic system to serve 80 buildings. This allowed the operators of the three plants to work together to adjust systems and prevent problems. This integrated system saved the University millions of dollars. The same approach to integration was used at the Gold Bar Wastewater Treatment Plant in Edmonton, the Edmonton Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant and two more plants in Calgary. I retired from Spartan in January 1996.

I then was asked to travel to Australia on a six-month contract to smooth out operations at the Fischer Controls Plant in Sydney. Marilyn and I stayed an extra month to holiday and then returned to Edmonton.

In retirement, I have been actively involved in the Delwood Community League.

Len Evenson thanked Dick for his informative presentation that demonstrated his innovative solution approach.

Sheldon Weatherby was the winner of the Free Lunch Draw.



Dick Nichols

It is with regret that we acknowledge the resignation of **Peter Gommerud**. Peter was sponsored by John Ross and joined our club in August 2017. We wish Peter and Karen McNaughton the best in their future endeavours.

“Fast Fred”

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, University (Faculty) Club, September 1st

Speaker: Jim Lepp

Topic: The Fragility of Nations-The Mennonite Experience

Team Leaders: Chuck Gerhart and Jim Lepp

Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, University (Faculty) Club, September 15th

Speaker: Ron Trant-Autobiography and “How to Hitchhike Properly”

Team Leaders: Chuck Gerhart and Fred Schulte

Joint Men’s Bocce Tourney-Sherwood Park/ Edmonton Gyro Club

Lead, ITAL-CANADIAN SENIORS ASSOCIATION, 9111-110 Ave. adjacent to Commonwealth Stadium, Wednesday, October 7th.

Team Leaders: Augie Annicchiarico and Mike Matei.