



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

MAY 2020

Those celebrating their birthdays are **Hank Mottl** on the 12th, **Len Evenson** on the 13th, **David Burnett** on the 18th and **Allan Warrack** on the 24th. Those celebrating their wedding anniversaries are **Sheldon** and **Judy Weatherby**, 49 years on the 15th; **Fred** and **Paulette Schulte**, 52 years on the 18th; **Jack** and **Steffany Bowen**, 26 years on the 21st and **Chuck** and **Myrna Gerhart**, 55 years on the 22nd.

It is with regret that we acknowledge the resignation of **Bob Bahniuk** on April 26th. Bob was sponsored by Sheldon Weatherby in 2015. We wish **Bob** and **Hanya** the best in their future endeavour's.



William (Bill) Taylor
December 20, 1943 – April 19, 2020

*It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of William "Bill" Taylor on April 19, 2020 after a long battle with prostate cancer fought with extreme grace and courage. Bill is lovingly survived by his wife, **Marie Losier**, his brother, Michael Taylor and wife Karen Cosh (Knowlton, QC); and his niece, Lisa Taylor (London, UK). He was predeceased by his parents, Wm. Alistair and Jean Taylor (London, ON) and sister, Marcia Taylor (Santa Fe, NM). Bill was born in Montreal, lived his early years in the Town of Mount Royal, and graduated from Sir George Williams University, Montreal, with a Bachelor of Commerce Degree. His career began with Westinghouse and was mostly spent in the electrical industry. In 1990 he started his company, Technalines*

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Manufacturers Agency, which supplied products to the electrical industry successfully for 20 years. Bill had an inventive, creative mind and was known for his unique "MacGyver-like" approach to problem solving. Prior to his health deterioration Bill did a variety of volunteer work, enjoyed his hobby of photography, and with his wife, Marie, travelled extensively. Bill had a friendly, outgoing personality, and a wonderful sense of humour that brought smiles to the faces of those around him. His creativity, warmth, and humour will be dearly missed by his family and friends. Consideration will be given later for a celebration of life.

In **2004**, the Edmonton Gyro Club agreed to take on the responsibility of organizing and holding the 7th **Annual Drive for the Cure Prostate Cancer Golf Tournament** in partnership with the Edmonton Branch, Canadian Cancer Society. The Team Leaders, Barry Walker, David Burnett, and Marty Larson with the help of many club members organized very successful tournaments in 2004, 2005 and 2006. **Bill Taylor** participated in these tournaments as a volunteer representing the Canadian Cancer Society. Bill was a Prostate Cancer survivor and he volunteered countless hours promoting Prostate Cancer Research and supporting those undergoing Prostrate Cancer treatment.

Bill was invited to join the Edmonton Gyro Club by **Barry Walker** in August 2005 and served two terms as a Director in 2006-08. He was **President in 2010-11** and was known as a positive, cheery guy with a humorous outlook on life. He continued to be active in club activities including the supervision of the bocce games at our Annual Corn Roasts.

We will miss this outstanding Person, fine Gentlemen and Super Gyro!



Master Carver, Bill Taylor 2011

Our members explored new digital territory on **April 21st** at 4:00 pm with our first **Gyro Zoom Video Teleconference Call**. We had 29 participants which is impressive considering that most of us had never heard of the technology until mid-March 2020.

Hank Mottl, our newest member gave us a short biographical sketch in which he indicated that he is basically a “science and tech junkie”. Hank is currently working with other online colleagues to develop Covid 19 solutions. **Jim** and **Gayl Lepp** have just completed 6 weeks of self-isolation and are looking forward to a neighbours driveway get-together with appropriate distancing enforced by strategically placed step ladders.

Warren Garbutt advised that he is now in charge of floor vacuuming at his residence.

Thanks to **Peter Carter** for setting up the Zoom Video event!

The second **Zoom Video Teleconference** was held on our regular meeting day, **May 5th**. Again, we had an impressive online attendance of 30 members. **Peter Carter** led the group in the singing of Cheerio.

President Chuck Gerhart announced birthdays, wedding, and membership anniversaries. He also paid tribute to Director’s **Bob Bahniuk** and **Tony Mazzuca** who have completed their terms. A special tribute was made to our Secretary, **Barry Walker** who is our longest serving Executive member. President in 1994-95 and Secretary since 2003-04.

President Chuck then Introduced **John Ross**, our fourth longest serving member who joined our club in 1982 through the sponsorship of **Allan Warrack**. John served as President in 1992-93, received the Award of Merit in 2003 and currently serves as Club Database Administrator.

*I have now been a member of this great Club for **38 years**, thanks to Allan Warrack’s invitation to join in Gyro fellowship, way back in April 1982. So, a BIG shout-out to you Allan. I continue to enjoy my Gyro participation immensely.*

Since many of you know some of my “Gyro years” history, today’s talk will be on earlier years. I hope it will kindle some memories of your own youth, and that you will share some of those stories with us all at future gatherings.

*I was born 2nd January 75 years ago **in Killarney, Manitoba.***

So, was I a New Year’s baby? I don’t know, but Killarney’s population was only about 1500, so chances are good that I was.

Killarney is just 12 miles north of North Dakota, which was important to me as a teenager. In Rolla, N.D. the bowling alley and movie theatre were open on Sunday afternoons. In Killarney, even the cafes were closed on Sundays, so it was a great adventure to head south of the border.

As many of you will know, US communities vote in their police chiefs, judges and even their dog catchers! Well in the even smaller community of St. John, North Dakota, their voted-in sheriff also owned the town’s only bar. He pretended to believe us when we told him that we were 21 and would sell us teenagers ‘off-sale’ beer and the odd bottle of Peppermint Schnapps. He may even have been the one who told us that this sickeningly sweet liqueur would be an effective ‘panty remover’. It never worked for me though!

When I was a little guy, my father owned a business selling whatever he could to earn a living. He was a North Star bulk fuel dealer, a Robin Hood Flour agent, and even sold coal that he sourced by rail from Alberta and Saskatchewan. So, every day he made deliveries to his in-town and farm customers. I loved to ride along in the truck with him. Part of his daily routine was to stop for a coffee at the Main Street Rex Café.

After Joe, the owner brought me my chocolate milk, he would sometimes add ‘free plays’ to the Rock-Ola jukebox, then invite me to select a couple of tunes. I distinctly remember, when I was just 11 years old, hearing Johnny Cash’s “I Walk the Line” playing from that jukebox. His deep booming voice was mesmerizing to me.

Some of you will know that one of my hobbies over the past 40 plus years has been restoring and collecting old jukeboxes. So now you know ‘why and where’ this passion originated.

As a teenager, my first car was an A40 Austin. The turn signal was a little illuminated wing that would swing out from the door jam. It wasn’t a very cool car for a teenager to own!

Well, I didn’t own it for long before the engine started ‘knocking’. I traded it for a ’52 Ford. Much cooler! It would go faster, had a full-size back seat and the wheels were spaced just the right distance apart for it to drive on the railway track.

There was only 1 train per day that came through Killarney, and we knew the schedule. The nighttime tracks were ours! We would ride the rails to some quiet country location, cuddle with our girlfriends, and drink a few beers without fear that the Mounties would pounce on us.

The furthest distance I ever drove on the tracks was to a neighbouring town 20 miles away. Somehow most of us survived our teenage years!

*My salvation was a beautiful young lady named **Helen Cranstone** who moved to Killarney. My story is that she picked me up one night while she was cruising the town in her mother's '57 Chevy. As I was headed to Wednesday night bible study, I was reluctant to accept her offer for a ride. However, I never made it to bible study that night! This story isn't true, but it's MY story.*

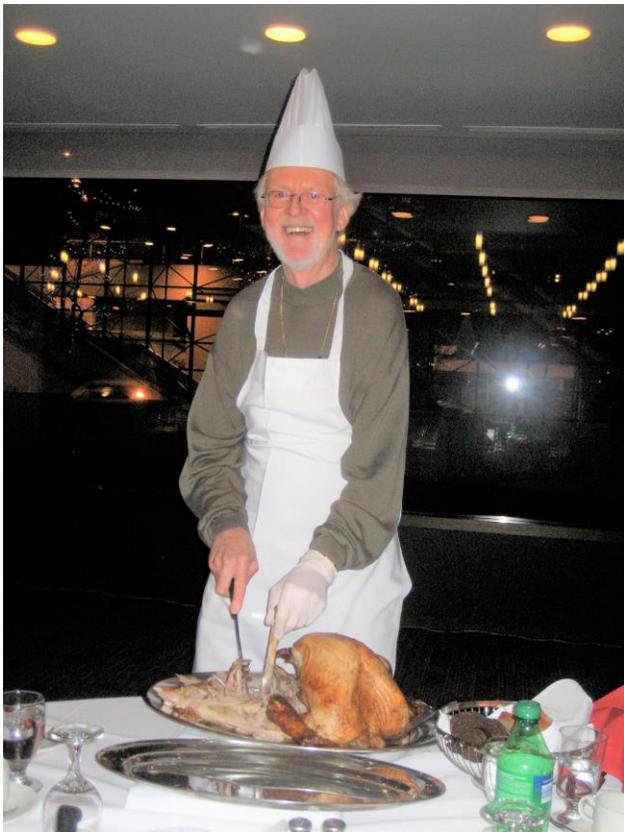
Helen's version on how we met is considerably different! Our first date turned into many and culminated in these two teenagers getting married in November 1963, now 56 years ago.

After the wedding we soon boarded the train to a new northern Manitoba town named Thompson, to start our married life together.

Our Thompson adventure is a story for another time.

My 10 minutes are up. Thanks for putting up with my ramble.

Cheerio!



John Ross

President Chuck then introduced **Allan Warrack**, our third longest-serving member who celebrated his 40th anniversary of Gyro in 2020.

*My connection with Gyro was through **Gordon and Ivy Rennie and my wife, Jean (Rennie) Warrack**. Gord had been a member of the Edmonton Club for **60 years** when he passed in 2010 at age 98. Gord sponsored me and I joined the Edmonton Gyro Club in January 1980. The two Ross and three Warrack children were known as **GYrunt's**.*

My dad was from Aberdeen, Scotland and my mother was from Cedar Falls, Iowa. They had 10 children in their family of whom 9 survived. I was born in Calgary and raised in Langdon just south east of Calgary and attended Langdon Public School and Strathmore High School. My favourite sport was baseball and I have continued to play and participate in baseball events all my life.

I attended the University of Alberta and obtained a BSc. In Agriculture Sciences and was a member of the Delta Upsilon Fraternity, Alberta Chapter. Peter Loughheed was Chapter President. Jean and I moved to Ames, Iowa where I attended Iowa State University and received a MS in Agriculture Economics and a PhD, Economics and Statistics.

***Leroy "Satchel" Paige**, a major league baseball player and a famous fastball pitching legend was part of the 3rd barnstorming trip which stopped in Ames, Iowa. Our "team" players each took one pitch from Satchel, I managed to make a hit off a pitch from the legend!*

We returned to Alberta with our young family and settled in Edmonton. I started my career at the University of Alberta as an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry under Dean Fred Bentley in 1967.

I was asked to run in the 1971 general election, as a Progressive Conservative candidate in the electoral district of Three Hills. It was a close race which I won by eight votes. From that point on, I was known as "landslide"! Premier Peter Loughheed appointed me Minister of Lands and Forests.

In the 1975 general election, I defeated three other candidates and was appointed Minister of Utilities and Telephones. My retirement from provincial politics came at the dissolution of the Assembly in 1979.

On returning to the University of Alberta, I assumed my position on as an Associate Professor and in 1981 became the Associate Dean, Master of Public Management Program, Faculty of Business. In 1986, I took on the responsibilities

of Vice-President (Administration). In 1992, I returned as a Professor to the Faculty of Business until my retirement as Professor Emeritus in 2002.



Allan Warrack

Thanks to John and Allan for sharing their life stories!

Treasurer, **Gary Campbell** was the winner of the virtual free lunch draw.

President Chuck Gerhart welcomed 33 Gyros and one guest, to our May 19th **Zoom Video Teleconference**. President Chuck led us in the singing of Cheerio. **Congratulations to Peter Carter as our new 2nd Vice-President of Gyro International**. **Alan Pentney, President of Gyro International** expressed his pleasure to be part of our teleconference and looks forward to working with Peter Carter. Peter is only the third Gyro Club of Edmonton member to be a member of the International Executive Council. **Russ Carter** was President in 1952 and **Marty Larson** held the position in 1993.

New member applicant, **Trevor Mowbrey** provided a brief outline of his life history using pictures to tell the story. He was born in November 1960 and started playing minor hockey in 1965-66. Trevor and his parents began travelling to Hawaii in the 1970's and he has made 44 trips to date. In High School he owned a Volkswagen Beetle. Trevor married in 1985 but his wife was later killed in a car accident in 1987. He raised their two sons as a single parent and has allowed certain indulgences such as setting up their pool table in the dining room.

Trevor has enjoyed golf having lived near the Sturgeon Course but is still not a good golfer! For 15 years from 1995 to 2010, he ran BBQ Catering Company but closed the business partly because it was mainly a summer business. Trevor loves to take lots of impromptu pictures of his friends and relatives. Posed pictures are boring! He is a whiskey man and enjoys sipping.

On April 12, 2019 Trevor married **Guiju Hu** in Las Vegas.

Ray Dallaire joined our call from his condo in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. The current temperature is 28 degrees Celsius. Ray and his wife Donna were booked to fly home on April 1st but two days before, their WestJet reservation disappeared. They rebooked twice with upcharges and still no flights were made available and no refund has been made by WestJet. They currently have few options partly because they have a 20 kg dog that can only travel in the hold. As of May 18th, most of the airlines will not carry pets in their hold because of the heat. There is still a chance they may be able to fly Alaska Airlines to Seattle and then drive home from there.

Ray advised that the Governors of the States of Jalisco and Nayarit which include Puerto Vallarta, Nuevo Vallarta and Bucerias have been proactive with issues arising from the Covid 19 Epidemic as opposed to the President. Pharmacies, gas stations and grocery stores are open. Public beaches are closed and are patrolled by the marines and police, but in a polite way. Fisherman can still fish early in the morning.

Puerto Vallarta is a tourist city, but all hotels were closed two months ago. Almost all the staff are on their own since there is no financial support from the government or the hotel owners. A food bank has just been set up locally and 4000 people were served from day one. Ray owns a unit in a private condominium and there are currently 40 units occupied with full and part time residents. Sixty-eight of the 74 employees in the condominium continue to work and receive pay. The condo owners have set up a "Dispensa" which means pantry. The condo residents recently raised 38,000 pesos (\$2275 CDN) to fill 100 bags of essential personal items and food for staff and needy friends. The second Dispensa will be launched on May 22nd. Beef prices are up about 150% in the last two months but there is no shortage of food and vegetables.

There is no accurate information on Covid 19 in the Puerto Vallarta area. Testing has not been done and the number of confirmed cases and deaths are unreliable.

Dunc Mills was sponsored by **John Mann** and joined our Gyro club in January 2018. He grew up in Onoway where his father ran a grocery store. His dad started working for Great West Life in 1964 and the family moved to Edmonton in 1967. Dunc attended Queen Elizabeth High School where he played basketball. He then attended the University of Alberta to pursue a BA in Arts. There were several jobs including sales work at Val Bergs and selling cars at Healy motors.

In the summer of 1976 Dunc began working at the Royal Bank, transferring to Edson in 1980. He enjoyed working in Edson and joined Kinsmen. He received some sage advice from a friend, “don’t be a knife and forker” and just show up for the meal, get involved!

More Royal Bank transfers included Olds, Didsbury, Wainwright and then Evansburg in 1990. In 1996, Dunc got involved with the Alberta Golf Association which was a natural fit because of his golfing experience at the Glendale Golf Club. The Alberta Golf Association published an annual magazine entitled “The Alberta Golfer Magazine which listed all of the golf courses in Alberta. The editor died and Dunc took on his role. Dunc also became actively involved in the Junior Golf Tour which holds 25 tourneys a year.

Dunc also shared his experience with Poker Casino and his favourite game Texas Holdem Poker. This has been a part-time tax-free job for the past 25 years.

Editor’s note: Dunc indicated shortly after joining our club, give me a job. True to his word he accepted the position of 2nd Vice-President in April 2019.

Leon lubin was the winner of the virtual “free Lunch” draw.

FIRST POSTING

Trevor “ET” Mowbrey has applied for membership in our club. **Trevor** and his wife **Guiju Hu** live at **7613 Millwoods Road South, NW Edmonton, AB T6K 3V5**. His phone number is **780-566-9103** and email address is trevor@mowbrey.ca Trevor is CFO and HR Director of Willowglen Systems Inc. **Jack Bowen** and **John Ross** propose him.

These are from a book called **Disorder in the American Courts**, and are things people actually said in court, word for word, taken down and now published by court reporters that had the torment of staying calm while these exchanges were actually taking place.

ATTORNEY: What was the first thing your husband said to you that morning?

WITNESS: He said, 'Where am I, Cathy?'

ATTORNEY: And why did that upset you?

WITNESS: My name is Susan!

ATTORNEY: What gear were you in at the moment of the impact?

WITNESS: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.

ATTORNEY: The youngest son, the 20-year-old, how old is he?

WITNESS: He's 20, much like your IQ.

ATTORNEY: She had three children, right?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: How many were boys?

WITNESS: None.

ATTORNEY: Were there any girls?

WITNESS: Your Honor, I think I need a different attorney. Can I get a new attorney?

ATTORNEY: How was your first marriage terminated?

WITNESS: By death.

ATTORNEY: And by whose death was it terminated?

WITNESS: Take a guess.

ATTORNEY: Can you describe the individual?

WITNESS: He was about medium height and had a beard

ATTORNEY: Was this a male or a female?

WITNESS: Unless the Circus was in town I'm going with male.

ATTORNEY: Doctor, how many of your autopsies have you performed on dead people?

WITNESS: All of them... The live ones put up too much of a fight.

And last:

ATTORNEY: Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: Did you check for blood pressure?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: Did you check for breathing?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: How can you be so sure, Doctor?

WITNESS: Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar.

ATTORNEY: I see, but could the patient have still been alive, nevertheless?

WITNESS: Yes, it is possible that he could have been alive and practicing law.

“Fast Fred”

UPCOMING EVENTS

Zoom Video Teleconference, Tuesday, June 2nd, 4pm

Speaker: Detective Michael Fehr, Edmonton Police Service

Topic: Fraud Awareness

Team Leaders: Dan Hasinoff/Warren Garbutt

Zoom Video Teleconference, Tuesday, June 16th, 4pm