



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

**President-Jack Little, Past President-John Mann,
1st Vice-President-Peter Carter 2nd Vice-President- Ray Dallaire
Secretary-Barry Walker, Treasurer-Gary Campbell,
Directors- Alan Rusler, Jamie Fleming, Tracy DesLaurier, Tony Mazzuca
Database Administrator-John Ross, Gyrolog Editor-Fred Schulte**

DECEMBER 2015

**MERRY CHRISTMAS and
A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Those celebrating birthdays are **Sam Gruden** on the 1st, **Ron Ramsey** his 80th on the 3rd, **Larry Dobson** on the 16th, **Gary Campbell** on the 17th and **Chuck Gerhart** on the 24th. Those celebrating their wedding anniversaries are **Cliff and Sharon French**, 52 years on the 20th and **Ari and Kathryn Hoeksema** 12 years on the 31st.

We are pleased to confirm that **Taras Chmil's** membership application was posted twice in the Gyrolog in October and November. He is now a member of the Edmonton Club. **Congratulations Taras!**

SECOND POSTING

Leonard (Len) Evenson has applied for membership in our club. **Len** and his wife **Jackie** reside at **13639 100 Avenue NW, T5N 0J1**. Their telephone number is **780-454-0578** and email address is evenson@shaw.ca **Len** is a retired Obstetrician/Gynecologist and is proposed by **Leon Lubin** and **Jack Brown**.

FIRST POSTING

Daniel (Dan) Hasinoff has applied for membership in our club. **Dan** and his wife **Sandy** reside at **#4- 409 Hunters Green, NW, T6R 2Z1**. Their telephone number is **780-435-2871** and email address is hasinoff@telus.net **Dan** is a retired Pediatrician and is proposed by **Allan Warrack** and **John Boyd**.

President Jack Little welcomed 79 Gyros, Gyrettes and guests on **December 1st** to the **Annual Christmas Party** held in the Riverview Room of the Shaw Conference Centre. Our special guest was **Alan Pentney, District VIII Governor**. Alan has had a distinguished career with Alberta Environment in Calgary and Lethbridge and is now Technical Leader, Engineering with the **National Energy Board**. Alan is a member of the Stampede City Gyro Club and has been very active in the Club and District Executive's.

John Ross talked about new member **Jim Lepp's** background which included his position as former President and CEO of AltaSteel. District Governor Alan Pentney officially inducted Jim and his wife **Gayl** as members of the Gyro fraternity.

John Ross also spoke about new member **Bob Bahniuk's** former career with Spartan Controls and his new career as a semi-retired consultant and volunteer at the Leduc #1 Energy Centre with his sponsor, **Sheldon Weatherby**.

The District Governor officially inducted Bob as a member of the Gyro Club of Edmonton.

District Governor Alan also had the pleasure of presenting **Gerry Glassford** with his **25 year membership pin** with the Edmonton Club.

The gathering of friends for a sumptuous Christmas feast complete with the traditional carving of individual turkeys at each table proved again to be a big hit. Thanks to our 10 carvers for demonstrating their exceptional skills.

We were also treated to the artistic talents of caricaturist **Billy McCray**.

Thanks to **Bruce Foy, Sam Gruden** and **Jack Little** for organizing this first-class event!



Photo by Bruce Swanson

The Turkey Carvers

Jim Lepp, Jack Brown, Ron Ramsey, Larry Dobson, Roger Russell, Jack Little, John Ross, Peter Carter, John Boyd, Bill Taylor



Photo by Bruce Swanson

Gayl and Jim Lepp



Photo by Bruce Swanson

District Governor- Alan Pentney, Bob Bahniuk, Sheldon Weatherby

Gerry Glassford was born September 5, 1934 in Vancouver and raised in the Whistler area near Mile 34 on the Pacific Great Eastern Railway (PGE) and Alta Lake. His great grandfather was George Gibsons of Gibsons Landing. Gerry had three brothers and three sisters. In 1938, he travelled with his parents to Quesnel on the PGE and visited the Bowron Lakes area which began his life-long love of canoeing in this region. Gerry's father helped build an airport in the Ucluelet-Tofino area and worked in the Vancouver navy yards. When Gerry was seven he lived in the Yale area and walked to school along the rail tracks.

Gerry's father then acquired some homestead land on the Fraser River 12 miles south of Quesnel and introduced horse racing in the Williams Lake and Quesnel area. Gerry entered 'flat races' as a jockey in the Cariboo Derby and won \$100 third place prize money. He used his prize money to attend the 1949 Boy Scout Jamboree in Ottawa.

In Grade Eleven Gerry moved to Gibsons for one year and in the following year he lived in the Pemberton-Anderson Lake area. While attending Grade 12, he worked as a 'Gandy Dancer' doing track maintenance for the PGE. He then moved to Quesnel and worked for Western Plywood doing maintenance and production. He saved enough money to attend the University of British Columbia for one year. Gerry bought a car and went back to Western Plywood at Quesnel. His supervisor encouraged him to go back to UBC for Summer School in 1954. Gerry continued to work at the plywood mill but in 1956 there was a severe economic downturn and he had to lay off many staff who were his friends. It was at this time that Gerry met **Alice Marie Ruhl** at the Western Plywood Christmas Party in Quesnel. In the fall of 1957 he went back to UBC and took Physical Education; he had previously taken forestry and accounting. **Gerry and Alice were married on October 12th, 1957.**

Gerry worked weekends and summers at the Western Plywood plant in Vancouver. In 1959 he graduated and undertook his teacher training in Quesnel and coached rugby and other sports. He put on the musical "Oklahoma" and continued this for a number of years. To help pay off their debt, Gerry and Alice needed to find a better paying job. School District 24 in Oliver offered such an opportunity. Gerry taught English, Social Studies and Physical Education and started the first rugby team in the Okanagan Valley. He also introduced fitness training with circuits and running. Gerry then set up an outdoor education program that included history and geography and presented it to the parents, teachers and the School Board. He also took students to the Bowron Lakes for canoe and boat safety training.

In 1961, the Federal Government introduced Bill C131 which provided \$5 million in scholarships to upgrade physical education training. Gerry received a scholarship and went to the University of Alberta in Edmonton for a Master's degree. In 1963-64 the University of Alberta established the first Faculty of Physical Education in the British Commonwealth. In 1964 Gerry received his Master's degree in Physical Education and in the fall of 1965 went on staff and coached the Golden Bears basketball team from 1965-68. In 1966, the U. of A. established the first Phys Ed PhD program in the Commonwealth.

Gerry and Alice travelled to Urbana, Illinois where Gerry enrolled in the University of Illinois PhD program in 1968-69. His PhD thesis work focused on the cultural anthropology of the Inuit Tapirisat in Northern Canada. Gerry's field work included the study of indigenous games. He learned the games from the elders and re-introduced the indigenous games to the younger generations.

With the help of funding from the Federal Government, the inaugural **Northern Games** were held in Inuvik, Northwest Territories, Canada in 1970. The traditional Northern Games originate from the time when the Inuvialuit were still semi-nomadic and games were played for both fun and survival, developing strength, endurance and resistance to pain.

In 1970, Gerry received his PhD and became Assistant Chair of the Department of Physical Education at the U. of A., Acting Chair in 1971 and Chair in 1972. Gerry took a study leave in Europe and looked at worker productivity and how physical fitness might improve productivity. In 1978, the highly successful Commonwealth Games were held in Edmonton and there was a direct connection to the University of Alberta's Physical Education Faculty. Gerry became the Dean of the Faculty in 1981 and acting Vice-President of External in 1990. In this latter capacity he worked with Murray Fraser, President of the University of Calgary to establish Alberta's Universities Foundation Act (1991). Gerry retired from the University in 1993 but was invited back to help create a graduate program in the area of Health Promotion Studies. In July 2001, Gerry assumed a two-year term as acting dean of the Faculty of Extension.

On September 12, 2012, Gerry was inducted into the **Sports Wall of Fame** at the U. of A.

Gerry was sponsored by **Dick Ogilvie** and joined the Gyro Club of Edmonton in 1990. He was President in 1997-98 and District Governor in 2002-2003. Gerry and Alice have four children, Robert, Paul, Jeanine and Ian and 10 grandchildren.

Congratulations Gerry and Alice for 25 years of active friendship!



Supplied by the Glassford's

Alice and Gerry Glassford

Dick Nichols reports on the results of the Hockey Pool.

Game 2 November 23 Winners First Period Second Final

Oilers vs. Capitals

First	0	0	Darren Read	Darren Read	John Ross
Second	0	0	Duane Clayton	Duane Clayton	Grace Heibert
Final	0	1			Glen Baird

Game 3 November 28 Winners First Period Second Final

Oilers vs. Penguins

First	2	0	David Ross	Jack Little	Brooks Ross
Second	2	2	Corey Russell	B. Cook	Janet Hughes
Final	3	2	Jeff Baird		Jeff Baird

Second	2	2	Corey Russell	B. Cook	Janet Hughes
Final	3	2	Jeff Baird		Jeff Baird

Game 4 December 2 Winners First Period Second Final

Oilers vs. Bruins

First	0	0	Bea McKenzie	Michael Mant	Ken Willan
Second	1	1	B. Weisberger	Barry Walker	Erin Lucas
Final	3	2	Mike Matei	Gerry Glassford	

Game 5 December 6 Winners First Period Second Final

Oilers vs. Sabres

First	3	1	Bea McKenzie	Jack Slobodan	Jack Slobodan
Second	4	2	D.Hunt	Marilyn Nichols	Marilyn Nichols
Final	4	2	Mike Matei		

Game 6 December 11 Winners First Period Second Final

Oilers vs. Rangers

First	3	1	Sam Ritchie	Peter Morrison	Jack Slobodan
Second	3	3	S. Seller	Bill Taylor	Emily Snihurowych
Final	7	5	Scarlet Burnett	Noni Herchen	

Game 7 December 17 Winners First Period Second Final

Oilers vs Black Hawks

First	0	1	Bea McKenzie	Sharon French	Leon Lubin
Second	0	2	Rudy Lucas	Marilyn Nichols	Marilyn Nichols
Final	0	4	Gary Campbell	John Boyd	

President Jack Little welcomed 39 Gyros and three guests to the **December 15th** luncheon meeting held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club. **Larry George** led the group in the singing of Cheerio and **Jim Lochhead** presented the Grace.

Allan Warrack introduced his guest and new member applicant **Dan Hasinoff**.

Our Club Pastor, **Jim Lochhead** on the urging of his wife **Sandy McDonald** presented the "correct version" of the *Night before Christmas*:

A Politically Correct Christmas

~ Anon

Twas the night before Christmas and Santa's a wreck...

How to live in a world that's politically correct?

His workers no longer would answer to "Elves",

"Vertically Challenged" they were calling themselves.

And labor conditions at the North Pole,

were alleged by the union, to stifle the soul.

Four reindeer had vanished without much propriety,

released to the wilds, by the Humane Society.

And equal employment had made it quite clear,

that Santa had better not use just reindeer.

So Dancer and Donner, Comet and Cupid,

were replaced with 4 pigs, and you know that looked stupid!

The runners had been removed from his beautiful sleigh,

because the ruts were deemed dangerous by the EPA,

And millions of people were calling the Cops,

when they heard sled noises upon their roof tops.

Second-hand smoke from his pipe, had his workers quite frightened,

and his fur trimmed red suit was called "unenlightened".

To show you the strangeness of today's ebbs and flows,

Rudolf was suing over unauthorized use of his nose.

He went to Geraldo, in front of the Nation,

demanding millions in over-due workers compensation.

So...half of the reindeer were gone, and his wife

who suddenly said she'd had enough of this life,

joined a self-help group, packed and left in a whiz,

demanding from now on that her title was Ms.

And as for gifts...why, he'd never had the notion

that making a choice could cause such commotion.

Nothing of leather, nothing of fur...

Which meant nothing for him or nothing for her.

Nothing to aim, Nothing to shoot,

Nothing that clamored or made lots of noise.

Nothing for just girls and nothing for just boys.

Nothing that claimed to be gender specific,

Nothing that's warlike or non-pacifistic.

No candy or sweets...they were bad for the tooth.

Nothing that seemed to embellish upon the truth.

And fairy tales...while not yet forbidden,

were like Ken and Barbie, better off hidden,

for they raised the hackles of those psychological,
who claimed the only good gift was one ecological.

No baseball, no football...someone might get hurt,
besides - playing sports exposed kids to dirt.
Dolls were said to be sexist and should be passé.
and Nintendo would rot your entire brain away.

So Santa just stood there, disheveled and perplexed,
he just couldn't figure out what to do next?
He tried to be merry he tried to be gay,
but you must have to admit he was having a very bad day.
His sack was quite empty, it was flat on the ground,
nothing fully acceptable was anywhere to be found.

Something special was needed, a gift that he might,
give to us all, without angering the left or the right.
A gift that would satisfy - with no indecision,
each group of people in every religion.
Every race, every hue,
everyone, everywhere...even you!
So here is that gift, its price beyond worth...

"May you and your loved ones enjoy peace on Earth

Larry George introduced our two guest presenters, **John Wheelwright, Executive Director of Dogs with Wings Assistance Society** and **Dr. Maria Illes, Director of Training.**

John has been a practicing lawyer in Alberta for many years and became Executive director in 2008. Maria was educated in Slovakia and received a PhD in History. She taught for 12 years before emigrating to Canada with her family in 1999.

John indicated that Dogs with Wings is a healthcare organization and service dogs are an important element in helping people. The society is a Registered Charity and has operations in Grande Prairie, Edmonton, Camrose, Red Deer and Calgary. Their mission is to foster **independence** and **integration** for people with disabilities by providing trained assistance dogs and ongoing support. There are three areas of focus; Autism Service Dogs, Guide Dogs and Companion/Facility Dogs. Two hundred volunteers across Alberta provide valuable assistance to the staff. The Society trains Labradors because they are a safe breed who will work well with both trainers and clients. The society's 2016 operational budget will be

\$890,000. Forty thousand dollars is invested in each trained dog over a period of two years. There is no cost to the client if they cannot afford it.

Maria indicated that she has 20 years of training experience and works with nine staff in Edmonton. They are currently training 6-8 dogs per year but their vision is to train 25 per year. There is currently a two year waiting list for trained dogs and the greatest need is for autistic children. They now have their own breeding program as opposed to acquiring dogs from the SPCA. The first part of the training program is to show love to the dogs. The dogs are always rewarded with a treat after a training segment. The dogs are trained to undress children by pulling off mitts and pulling on zippers. They can also help blind clients by pushing buttons on elevators and on handicapped doors. The dogs can also be trained to pick up dropped objects such as credit cards without chewing or puncturing them.

The dogs love food but are trained not to touch any food that is on the floor or on the ground without a specific command. Maria demonstrated with her black lab "Pete" by placing 7 or 8 dog biscuits around his feet. Pete did not move or show any interest at all. Even when given a command with just one biscuit, Pete was reluctant because he did not want to make a mistake. These dogs need to have fun as well as recreation time; it is very important in addition to their work time activities.

All of the dogs, male or female are spayed and have an average life span of eight years with proper feeding and diet. Eight years is a trigger point and the usual signs are physical ones such as slowing down. The dogs are not returned to the Society but they always get a good home when their training work is done.

Jamie Fleming thanked our speakers for a wonderful hands-on experience. The winner of the free lunch draw was **Peter Carter**.



**Maria Illich and John Wheelwright
"Pete" and "Spirit"**

'Fast Fred'

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Regular Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club,
January 5, 2016**

Speaker: Dean Heuman

Topic: Rebirth of the Edmonton Air Show

Contacts: Bob Kerrison and Ken Korchinski

Gyrette Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, January 12th

Time: 11:30 Register, 12:00 noon lunch

Speaker: A surprise!

Contact: Bronwyn Swanson

**Regular Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club;
January 19th**

Speaker: Dr. Adriana Davies

**Topic: The great progress of women from being considered as Non Persons and
unable to vote less than 100 years ago.**

Contacts: Warren Garbutt and Jack Brown

**Regular Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club;
March 15th**

**Speaker: Margaret Miller, Director of Advancement, Faculty of Nursing,
University of Alberta**

Topic: Translating Research in Elder Care (TREC)

Contacts: Fred Schulte, Cliff French and Arvid Hardin

District VIII Convention, Fairmont Hot Springs Resort, May 26-29, 2016

**GYRO International Convention, Red Lake (Mackenzie Island), Ontario
July 11th-17th, 2016**

Camp Gyro Registration

Gyro International and District VII Convention 2016

Hosted by the McKenzie Island Club in Red Lake, Ontario

July 11-17, 2016

Gyro:	_____	Gyrette:	_____
Mailing Address:	_____	City:	_____
Province/State:	_____	Postal/Zip Code:	_____
Email:	_____	Phone:	_____
Gyro Club:	_____	District:	_____
Arrival Date:	_____	Departure Date:	_____

Registration Fee

(Cheques payable to: The Gyro Club of McKenzie Island. U.S. Funds at par)

Early Bird (Reduced) until March 1, 2016

\$440.00 couple

\$220.00 single

After March 1, 2016

\$480.00 couple

\$240.00 single

All early bird registrations will be entered into a draw for an original Aboriginal Woodland painting.

Accommodation

- A block of rooms has been reserved at the Super 8 Red Lake at a reduced rate of \$120.00 per night.
- To reserve please contact the Super 8 Red Lake, Ontario at 807-727-8888 and ask for the Gyro rate.
- Includes complimentary continental breakfast, parking and internet.

Contact Karen Pace, our Travel Specialist who will assist you with all of your travel needs.

She will be coordinating charter flights into Red Lake at substantial savings.

1-800-465-3305

Submit Registration To:

Ted and Annwyl Shewchuk

Convention Chair

Box 1013

Red Lake, ON

P0V 2M0

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See you at Camp Gyro!