

January 21, 2003

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Editor

Allan Douglas Phone/Fax 433-5409 President Victor called us to order and asked Roger Russell to lead us in Cheerio. The Rev. John Dowds asked the blessing. There were thirty-one Gyros and the guest speaker in attendance.

District VIII Governor, Gerry Glassford, reported that he recently did an installation for the Cranbrook Club and that **Hugo Hess** is the new President. The club has three new members and is rejuvenating. Larry and Carol Dobson accompanied Gerry and Alice on the trip to Cranbrook.

President Victor reported that there is a movement away from Quad Club events on the part of some other clubs. As a result we will be having our own installation this year on May 10.

Gov. Gerry Glassford will attend the International Interim Convention in San Antonio later in the week. He also encouraged members to attend the District VIII Convention in Wallace this year. If anyone would like to go to the other clubs to promote that convention, please contact Gerry or David Burnett.

PLEASE NOTE that there will not be a luncheon meeting on Tuesday February 4th, as our Valentine's Party on Wednesday February 12, 2003 will replace it. Details below.

Gordon Robertson introduced our guest speaker, Mark Hollick who is the Director of Safety and Security for the Triple Five Corporation. He had an interesting presentation on the future plans for developing West Edmonton Mall. The first Phase of the Mall was opened in 1981 and the current vision is for the next ten years.

The next construction will be a family hotel on the south side towards the east end. It will have suites with kitchens as well as rooms to accommodate families. The current hotel and the motel across the street that Triple Five owns are both difficult to book at peak times.

The second plan is for an 8,000 seat arena and multiplex. This is needed because ice is scarce and there is not another facility of that size in the city. Further in the future there will be an adult living complex of 350 suites and a twelve-story professional office building.

The retail space in the mall is in high demand and they carefully screen their tenants. They have been actively seeking large American operations for new retail space as it is developed on the third level. The Mall offers entertainment as well as shopping and there are 180,000 to 200,000 visitors on a Saturday.

Bryce Van Dusen thanked the speaker on our behalf and presented him with a gift. Mark then drew from the deck of cards and John Ross won a free lunch.

We will have an installation and welcome for our new member Erik Hedegaard, at our next noon meeting on February 18, 2003.

THE GYRO STORE has a wide range of Gyro material such as jackets, earrings, sports shirts, hats etc. these would make excellent gifts for Gyros or Gyrettes and they can be ordered by mail or from the website at www.gyro-international.org. Soft and warm Gyro sweatshirts are available for \$40.

From the Lethbridge Gyro bulletin comes the following story. Be careful what you wear (or don't wear) when working under your vehicle.... especially in public. A couple drove into a parking lot at a K-Mart store only to have the car break down. "You go and do your shopping, dear, and when you come out I will have it fixed" said the husband. When she had finished, she was returning and saw a group of people near the car. On a closer look she saw a pair of male legs protruding from under the chassis. The man was wearing shorts, but, due to the lack of underpants, all of his private parts were glaringly public ones. She was of course embarrassed and dutifully stepped forward, put her hand up his shorts and tucked everything neatly back in place. On regaining her feet she looked across the hood and found herself staring at her husband, working on the other side. The mechanic, however, required three stitches in his head.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Larry Dobson and Don Assheton-Smith are planning the Valentines Party for February 12th. It will be at the Creperie with cocktails at 6:00 and dinner at 7:00. We will have a private room and there will be a four-course dinner, served with wine for \$30 per person. Please contact Larry if you have not yet signed up. There is in door parking across the street in what used to be the Eaton Centre. There are out door lots nearby as well.

Wayne Tingley reported that at our next noon meeting on February 18th, the guest speaker will be Joe Konstantino who is the Senior Vice-President of Millar Western for Alberta and Saskatchewan. It should be an interesting program, bring a guest.

Mike Matei has confirmed Monday March 3, 2003 for the annual Bocci evening at the Italian Cultural Centre on St. Albert Trail. As in previous years Bocci will start at 5:00 PM for those who can be there, with dinner at 6:30 PM. The Bocci will continue after dinner until **President Victor** wins. The costs are not finalized but it will not be over \$28.

The District VIII Interim Convention will be held at Fairmont between March 14th and March 16th 2003.

The May 6^{th} meeting will be cancelled because we will have our installation at the Edmonton Country Club on May 10^{th} .

President Victor reported that some Gyros and Gyrettes are unable to make a commitment at this time to participate at the Black Cat Ranch from May 27 to May 29, 2003. He told us that not all the rooms are booked so there may be an opportunity to sign up later when we know what our calendar is like. However, space will be allocated on a first come, first served basis so the best way to avoid disappointment is to sign up as soon as possible.

The International Convention in Salt Lake City Utah occurs July 24 – 27, 2003.

The District VIII Convention, which will see **District Governor Gerry Glassford** end his term, will be held in Wallace, Idaho between July 31 and August 3, 2003.

The St. Albert Club has already booked the Faculty Club for Founders Night on October 22, 2003.

The Christmas Party for next year is booked for December 2, 2003.

Same Old Bull

Allan

