



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

**President-Ray Dallaire, Past President-Peter Carter,
1st Vice-President- Bruce Swanson, 2nd Vice-President-David Winfield
Secretary-Barry Walker, Treasurer-Gary Campbell,
Directors- Tracy DesLaurier, John Mann, Leon Lubin, Len Evenson
Database Administrator-John Ross, Gyrolog Editor-Fred Schulte**

OCTOBER 2017

Those celebrating their birthdays are **Gord Robertson, 92 years** on the 2nd, **Roger Russell** on the 5th, **Jamie Fleming** on the 8th, **Brian Steilo** on the 12th, **Ken Korchinski** on the 26th and **Mike Matei** on the 28th.

Those celebrating their wedding anniversaries are **Jamie and Nancy Fleming, 42 years** on the 4th; **Marty and Shirley Larson, 57 years** on the 8th; **Tony and Care Mazzuca, 47 years** on the 10th and **Gerry and Alice Glassford, 60 years** on the 12th.

Rick Craddock, Vice-President welcomed 48 GYROs and two guests from the **Sherwood Park** and **Edmonton Gyro Clubs** to the **GYRO Bocce Evening** held at the Italian Seniors Centre in Norwood on 110 Avenue in Edmonton.

Each team consisted of two Edmonton and two Sherwood Park members. The facility provides three bocce courts which allowed six teams to play at a time. The rules were streamlined with a 20-minute limit to score a maximum of 11 points. The banking of ball shots off the side walls sped up the games and provided some daring opportunities to get crazy with ball placement.

Past District Governor Bernie Kropp led the group in the singing of Cheerio and **Rick Craddock** presented the Toast to the Queen. Dinner consisted of Caesar salad, pasta, chicken cacciatore and dessert. The winner of the 50-50 draw was **Barry Walker**.

The teams battled it out until the final round was played between **A Team: Gord Stewart, Lloyd Wilson, Fred Schulte and David Burnett** and **B Team: Don Greig, Rick Craddock, Bruce Foy and John Boyd**. **The winners were team A!**

Thanks to the Sherwood Park Gyro Club for accommodating the Edmonton Club in this first-class event and especially **Augie Annicchiarico** and **Mike Matei** for organizing the participation from both clubs.



David Burnett

Gord Stewart

Fred Schulte

Lloyd Wilson

President Ken Lesniak of the Sherwood Park Gyro Club welcomed 75 Gyros, ladies and guests from the Edmonton Crossroads, Edmonton and Sherwood Park Gyro Clubs to the **Annual Founders Night** held at the Belvedere Golf and Country Club on October 25th. Included in this boisterous group were 31 from the Edmonton Club.

President Ken led the Toast to the Queen and presented the Grace. **Rikke Dootjes** led the singing of Cheerio which turned out to be one of the best on key and melodious efforts heard in years. Well done Gyros!



President Ken Lesniak

Past District Governor Bernie Kropp gave a short talk on the beginnings of Gyro in Cleveland, Ohio in 1912 by three young college men, **Paul Schwan, Gus Handerson** and **Ed Kagy**. They believed that their college friendship should be continued. This was a time when outhouses, wood and coal stoves and telegraph and rudimentary telephone service were available. Face to face communication was desirable, even essential in the business community. The Gyro Club helped these young men prosper in business while cementing their personal friendships. In the present time where we have an unbelievable choice of electronic communication devices, face to face contact is still very important!

The three founders had been meeting for some time and officially organized the Cleveland club on June 24, 1912. Incorporation took place on **October 21, 1914**, and that is no doubt why **Founders Night** celebrations are slated to occur as near as possible to that date.

Our guest speaker was **Steven Kaszuba**, an educator, administrator, author and historian. Steven's topic was "Writing a Story". The nature of writers is that they are vain, selfish and lazy. Travel is a key way to verify history writing. Steven's defining moment came in 1965 when he watched the movie "Dr. Zhivago" twice. Doctor Zhivago tells the story of Yury Zhivago, a man torn between his love for two women while caught in the tumultuous course of twentieth century Russian history. From this time on, Steven has spent considerable time in researching different historical events in Russia including the Ukraine and Siberia.

His first book is entitled *“Once Lived a Village”* The book describes the mass movement of an entire village to accommodate the Russian edict to collectivize farms to produce food for the state.

His second book was developed as the result of his seduction by the Trans-Siberian Railway. The period of the book entitled *“Destination Gulag”* is 1928 and weaves a story around a cousin who experienced deportation to Siberia.

His third book, *“To War Survive”* is dedicated to orphans who are the innocent victims of the worlds worst calamities and is based on the plight of two distant cousins. Steven emphasized that that the number one priority for the children of immigrants is education.



PDG Bernie Kropp

Thanks to the Sherwood Park Gyro Club for organizing this important Founders Night Event! The Edmonton Gyro Club looks forward to hosting Founders Night in October 2018

Two of the most overlooked qualities in life are patience and wisdom!



Leon Lubin was born in Rosthern, Saskatchewan in 1934 and spent his early years in Blaine Lake. Both his parents emigrated from Russia, his father after serving in W.W.I and his mother at the tender age of 13. They met in Winnipeg and later moved to Blaine Lake where his father operated a General Store until he retired.

Leon attended elementary school in Blaine Lake and finished high school in Saskatoon. He then completed a B.A. in Science at the University of Saskatchewan. While at university he was affectionately known as “Senator Lubin”. “He was one of the infamous cut-ups of the day who ensured that

campus life had an abundance of spirit, pranks, and intrigue. On numerous occasions, Leo and his cohorts reminded everyone that there was more to campus life than having one's nose buried in a book." (quote from Fall 1991 Green and White, University of Saskatchewan). Among other activities, he was sports editor of the campus newspaper, on the Men's Athletic Board and Director of Varsity Varieties. Interestingly, after graduation, for much of his career, he was closely involved in promoting and administering educational programs.

Initially, after graduation, Leon worked at Investors Syndicate in Saskatoon. He maintained his connection with the campus through the Greystone Theatre, performing in a production which won a place in The Dominion Drama Festival. It was at this time Leon started dating Jo-Anne.

Jo-Anne was born in Vancouver during the Second World War where her father served in the Royal Canadian Air Force. When the War ended, the family moved to Regina where Jo-Anne received her public school education followed by Teachers' College. Following graduation, at 18 years of age, she taught grade 8 for one year and found it to be a maturing experience. She resigned her position and spent a year travelling around Europe before returning to teach for another 2 years.

She then enrolled at the University of Saskatchewan where she received her Bachelor of Arts in English. Jo-Anne and Leon were married in Saskatoon in 1965 – a union which has lasted 52 years.

Following the birth of their first child, Suzanne, the couple moved to Edmonton where Leon was enrolled in the Masters of Business Administration Program (MBA). He graduated in 1972 and worked for the Edmonton Public School District as a Project Associate co-developing a decentralized budgeting model which integrated the educational and financial aspects of planning in schools and central administration. The program has since been implemented in many school districts in the United States and other parts of the world. Leon went on to become Supervisor in the Personnel Department. His final assignment was as Director of Support Staffing.

Following his tenure with the school system, Leon continued in the educational field to become the Executive Director of the newly implemented Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund. In this position, he was responsible for the implementation, coordination, delivery, and evaluation of 35 scholarship programs established under the \$100 million Scholarship Fund. During this time, he also served as a Public School Board Trustee, Vice Chair of the Edmonton Board of Health, Vice President of the Junior World Basketball Championships and

was on the Board of Directors for the United World Colleges. Needless to say, he had little time to smell the roses.

Upon his first stab at retirement, he was recruited to head up the Alberta Motion Picture Association. Much of his energy was focused on lobbying the Provincial Government to replace the incentives which were eliminated during the cut-backs of the late 80's. Some 7 years later, the mission was successful, and the industry once again became an economic and artistic success.

During this period Jo-Anne worked for the Edmonton Public School Board as a teacher and principal participating in many curriculum development and strategic planning initiatives at the school and district levels. She was fortunate to have a wide range of experience working with special needs, academic challenge and French immersion students. In the late 1970's she took a sabbatical leave to earn a Master's Degree in Education.

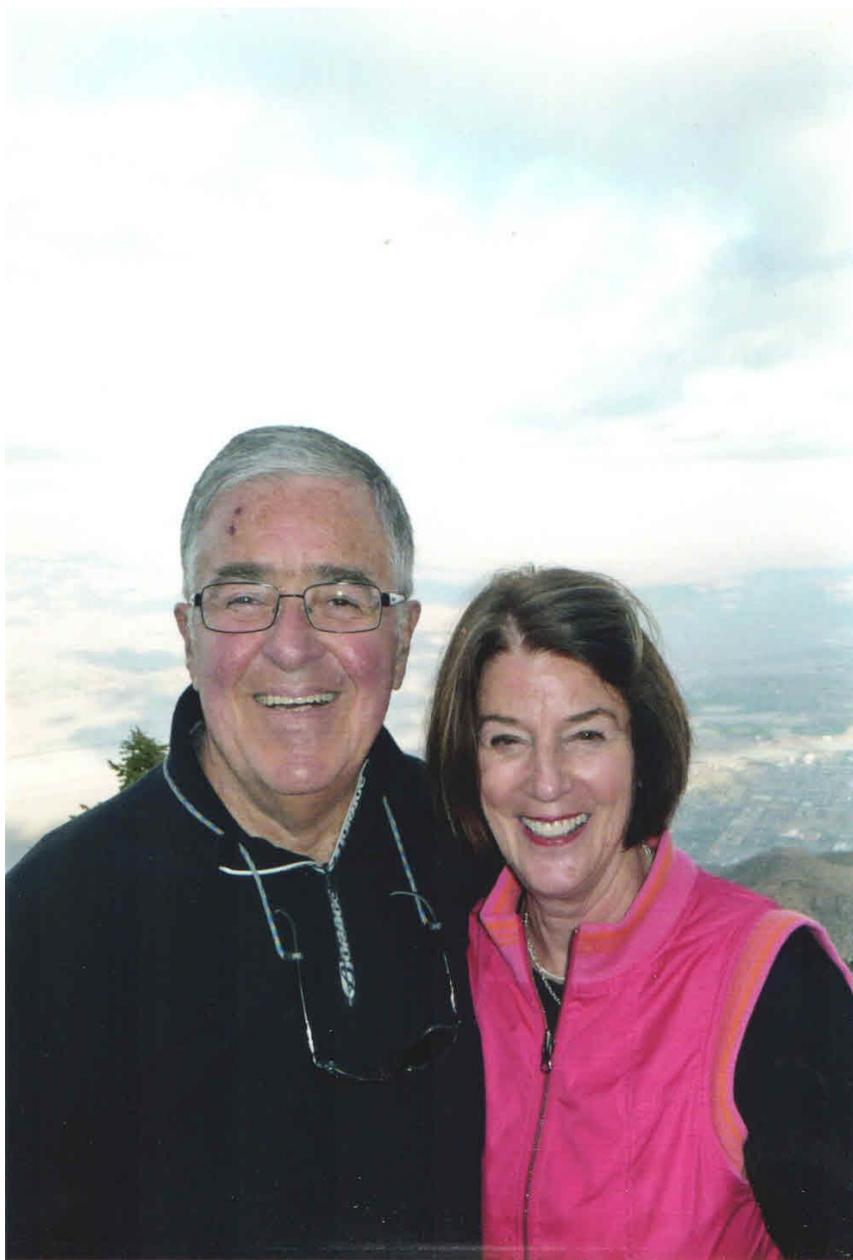
Jo-Anne also conducted professional workshops for teachers in jurisdictions throughout the province and worked for Concordia University as a mentor to student teachers. Following her retirement from education, Jo-Anne spent ten years serving as a director on three medical research boards including the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research. She also competed in the World Masters Games in Edmonton and Torino, Italy, winning swimming medals in her age category both times.

Over the years, Leon continued to meet new challenges as an Appeals Commissioner for the Workers Compensation Board, Chair of the City of Edmonton Taxi Commission, and Chair of the Board of Referees-Employment Insurance Commission. For the past 25 years, he served as the Alberta Director for the Forum for Young Canadians, a Foundation dedicated to bringing students from across Canada to Ottawa to learn about the process of government.

Leon and Jo-Anne enjoy spending time with their two children, Suzanne and Michael, who are both lawyers, as well as with their four grandchildren, Felix and Cleo in the Cayman Islands and Claire and Grace in Edmonton.

They enjoy travelling and socializing with their friends in Gyro and Gyrettes. Leon was introduced to Gyro by Walter Yakimets in 2006 and served as President in 2009-10.

Thank you, Leon and Jo-Anne, for 11 years of energetic friendship!



Leon and Jo-Anne Lubin

'Fast Fred'

UPCOMING EVENTS

DISTRICT VIII CURL-A-RAMA, Banff, Alberta, November 3-5

Host: Gyro Club of Calgary

Cost: \$255 per curler or \$200 per non-curler which includes:

- **A minimum of three six end games with prizes for winners and runners-up in four events.**
- **Two night's accommodation at the Voyager Inn based on double occupancy (\$120 extra for single occupancy).**
- **Gyro hospitality on Friday evening with snacks, a chili dinner and host bar**
- **Breakfast on Saturday and Sunday.**
- **Banquet dinner with wine on Saturday evening followed by a poker tournament.**

Enter as a team, or individually, and you will be assigned to team. Guest's welcome.

Anyone interested in participating should contact [Mike Matei](#).

Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, November 7th

Speaker and Topic: TBA

Contact: Ray Dallaire

GYRETTE Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, November 14th

Time: Registration 11:30, Lunch 12:00 noon.

Speaker: Ryan Teplitsky, Construction Project Manager, City of Edmonton.

Topic: New Walterdale Bridge

Contact: Marlene Burnett

Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, November 21st

Speaker: Dr. Tom O'Leary, Anesthetist

Topic: History of Ether

Contacts: Len Evenson and Jack Bowen

GYRO/GYRETTE Christmas Party, Riverview Room, Shaw Conference Centre, Tuesday December 5th

Cost: \$70 per person or \$80 with wine

More details to follow.

Contacts: Bruce Foy and Sam Gruden

Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, January 23, 2018

Speaker: Margo Long, Executive Director, Youth Empowerment & Support Services (YESS)

Contact: Fred Schulte

District VIII Convention, Nelson, B.C. June 7-10, 2018

Convention Hotel: Prestige Lakeside Resort, Gyro rates: \$140/night plus tax-City side and \$160/night-Lake side.

Registration Fee: \$450/couple, single \$225

Nelson Contact: Dave Brown davelinbrown@shaw.ca

GYRO International Convention, Abbey Resort, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. June 25-29, 2018