

# THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON  
EDMONTON - ALBERTA

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April 12, 1996

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quotas for limited access events have already been met and if hotel accommodations at the Mayfield are exhausted. In any event, however, every effort will be made to meet the needs of each of our guests.

The health and welfare of Gyro and Gyrette friends is always of sincere concern and we were saddened to learn that Dave Duchak's wife, Lauraine, has not been feeling well but we were delighted when Dave told us that she is showing promising signs of recovery from her illness. Bill Agnew has recently undergone surgery and we

We think that this is going to be a "power-packed" Gyrolog - "power-packed" because our co-chairs of the International and District Convention, David Burnett and Marty Larson, seem to have equipped all of their committee members with "copper top" batteries and they have power to spare. Based on what the 76 attendees of Tuesday's special meeting at the Mayfield Inn learned about the convention it is clear that everyone involved just keeps "going and going". But more on that later. First, we apologize to all for the deliberate delay in creating this Gyrolog. We felt that it would be wise to await the sharing of information that was certain to come with the April 9th meeting, hence the one week hiatus. This delay doesn't make our annual "walk in time" down 1885 Street to Kelly's Saloon to deal with the election of officers any less important. We all know how important our selection of Gyros to fill the executive positions truly is.

On April 2nd we met in Kelly's Saloon in snowy Fort Edmonton. I'm sure that some of the jocular and Gyro goodwill that the 32 Gyros present enjoyed was due to the efforts of that capable (but cheeky) pair of bartenders, BW and PYS. They dispensed good cheer and traded insults with all and sundry. Nice job Barry and Roger!!

President Mike opened the meeting; David Burnett led "Cheerio" and Rev. John asked the blessing. We learned that we have had a very gratifying response to the pre-convention publicity program and registration for our July convention has gone extraordinarily well. As of April 2nd we had 40 couples from our Club registered plus seven widows of formerly active Gyros. A wonderful response. PYS says that the combined totals will probably be around 50. Well done all of you Convention Promoters. And a tip of the hat to all registrants. It makes the organizing of an event such as this so much easier when the numbers are in place at an early date. Conversely, late registration procedures can be a bit difficult for those concerned if

anxiously wait to learn more about his health status. Our wishes for a full recovery are extended to you, Bill. All Gyros and Gyrettes were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Elaine Douglas's mother. Allan and Elaine returned to Ontario to be with members of the family, to share their love and to pay their respects. Please accept our genuine condolences, Elaine and Allan.

Elections night!! There are a few poignant lines in the poem, Morte d' Arthur, that go something like this - "The old order changeth, yielding place to new; and God fulfils himself in many ways lest one good custom should corrupt the world." We certainly NEVER allow our very good customs to do that but we do, and regularly, "changeth" the order. What a great, good custom President Mike has been. There has never been a task too small nor a challenge too great for him. And he has done it all with a smile on his lips, a lilt in his voice, and joy in his heart. In a few short weeks President Mike will move on to accept the Past President portfolio and Gyros will be blest with another dynamo, our own Allan Douglas, who will be installed as President at the Gyro Quad Club Annual Installation on Saturday, May 1. (More later.) Gerry Glassford moves from his role as second vice-president to first vice-president and Gyros is fortunate, indeed, that Jack Ellis has accepted the mantle of second vice-president, this by acclamation which indicates the esteem held of Jack by fellow Gyros. We are pleased and thankful that our trustworthy friend, Dick Ogilvie, has agreed to continue as our Club secretary. John Stroppa, always ready to make a commitment to the growth of the Gyro philosophy, will serve another term as our treasurer. Dick Mandlis and Andy Friderichsen will be our senior directors and to this group we will add two others from the list of final candidates which includes: Victor Jagoldas, John Plunkett, Pat Rasko, Fred Schulte, John Tartar, and Rollie Walsh. A special "thank you" to all members of Gyro who, when asked if they would stand for election to office, answered "Count me in".

The extraordinary Gyro/Gyrette joint meeting held April 9th at the Mayfield Inn was a great success. Pat Rasko and Marcia Larson registered 76 participants. Helen Ross and an extensive team of Gyrettes set up a display area where they exhibited the handcrafted garments made from the special fabric selected earlier to serve as our International Convention identity material. In the case of many garments, several sizes were available for us to try on in order to determine size appropriateness. Many of us made our selections there and ordered our material to make them. We now await the determination of the dates for the sewing and hat-making bees. Sounds like a lot of fun - and a great way to build esprit de corps within our Club. Thank you for doing all of this for us, Gyrettes. And a special word of appreciation to those who modelled our Klondike regalia: Helen Ross, Larry and Carol Dobson, Jean and Allan Warrack, Elaine and Allan Douglas. If the rest of us look half as good as you folks did, our Club will set a high standard for those who follow.

How wonderful it was to see Gord and Ivy Rennie back from their winter sojourn in the south. Both look well and their tanned faces emphasize the sparkle in their eyes.

Co-chair of our convention, Mary Larson, welcomed each of us to this special dinner and thanked all of the Gyrettes for graciously giving up their monthly meeting to participate. He also made welcome our guests from other clubs: Brian and Kay

Leeson (Brian is president of the Edmonton Crossroads Club), Fred and Joyce Ryder (Fred is the outgoing President of the St Albert Club), and Larry and Catherine Duschene (Larry is the incoming President of the St Albert Club). Marty suggested that his partner, David Burnett, would set out the progress made to date in the planning of the District VIII and International Convention. And did this superbly. Our problem is one of capturing the many highlights of an evening filled with them.

**\*COST OF CONVENTION?** Even adjusting for inflation, registration fees are within \$20-\$25 of the cost of earlier district conventions.

**\*BUDGET?** Gunnar Anderson is at Revision 11 and still on target for a balanced budget. (No, Gunnar is not a revisionist, merely tolerant, flexible accountant - and this is not an oxymoron in Gunnar's case.)

**\*INTERNATIONAL PUBLICITY?** Perhaps the best ever thanks to the efforts of Jack Ellis. The response from all parts of North America attest to the quality of his work.

**\*CONVENTION MEDIA (GYROSCOOP)?** Allan Douglas explained plans for a daily Convention newspaper, the GyroScoop. Topics include: What's on today?, This day in History, Gyro/Gyrette Trivia. Allan asked for assistance in the form of writers. Do you have an unfulfilled desire to be a daily reporter? Here is a ready made opportunity. Call Allan at 435-5409. As well as "on the spot" reporting of events, Allan would also appreciate articles, thoughts, interesting tidbits in advance, ready to fit into whatever space may be available in each day's publication.

**\*CONFERENCE WEARING APPAREL?** Helen Ross and Co. have this well in hand. More on this in later Gyrologs.

**\*REGISTRATION?** To add significance to the current registration stats, Barry Walker noted that the Moncton International has 425-440 registrations.; Chicago International 320-325. As of April 9th we had 442 paid registrants!!! With a total of 48 dedicated Gyrettes and Gyros.

**\*THURSDAY WELCOME?** Marty and team have this well in hand: a special function for first time participants where they can meet International and District officers, a buffet dinner to be enjoyed by all, liquid refreshments, decades of dance performances, 75th Anniversary Club special celebrations (including skits), and loads of friends.

**\*MIXED GOLF?** On Friday morning the golfers among us will journey west to the Links (rather than the Ranch as earlier considered). Allan Warrack reminded us that there were only 60 spots available and the first 60 to produce the requisite tariff would gain those coveted tee times for the mixed foursomes. Prizes are still needed.

**\*CITY TOURS?** John Stroppa explained the program of tours (both 4 hour and 2 hour duration). Buses are booked and response has been excellent by the registrants. Stops at the Legislature, the Muttart Conservatory, the River Valley, the downtown core, and WEM are all planned. Shuttle service to WEM is readily available at a small cost. We need volunteers to accompany our guests on the buses. Please call John at 469-6133.

**\*FORT EDMONTON?** Plans to take our guests back to the halcyon days of the Klondike Gold Rush continue to firm up. From the time the guests board the old train

coaches (about 4:00 PM) pulled by a steam powered locomotive at the Fort's departure station until they leave the big tent beginning at approximately 9:45 PM they will be on a walk through the history of our beautiful city. The Fort, as a living museum, will evoke memories of our past and the guides present at every stop along the way, together with live musical entertainment, will play upon those special senses. We need many, many volunteers. Interested in helping? Please call the Ogilvies at 4323-0912 or the Glassfords at 430-7108.

**\*SATURDAY LUNCH?** Helen Ross and friends have planned a magnificent mixed luncheon which will feature open seating, an entertainment extravaganza with Richard and Deborah, touches of class at every table and a local host and hostess to add that special blush of Gyro and Gyrette friendship. They will also place the spotlight on 75 years of Gyros via a walk through time. Truly a luncheon with zest.

**\*BOCCI?** Would an International be complete without bocci? Well, maybe. But we aren't going to chance it. Roger Russell, responding to a groundswell of enthusiasm among Gyros and Gyrettes has risen to the challenge. Aware of the dearth of local green space, Roger has determined to offset this disadvantage by turning to technology. Through the magic of woven carpets (not Aladdin's) he has found a way to create 6 bocci lanes. Time restraints require that Roger limit the competition to a single elimination format but he compensates for that by featuring wine by our favourite vintner, Ernesto. Well done, Roger.

**\*PRESIDENT'S BALL?** Would an International Convention be complete without one? No. But this one will receive the wonderful Victorian ambience as a result of the planning efforts of Sharon Matei and her Victorians. This will be a 1896 (yes, you read that correctly, an 1896 formal) and camera buffs are warned to bring extra film. This will be an affair with class. Our head table will be piped to their seats by the finest of our Highland pipers. The food will be the magnificently prepared by the Mayfield's gold medal chefs. The dancing will be like a waltz through time to the accompaniment of an eighteen piece orchestra. And the installation of international officers will be done with the level of dignity and respect attainable only by Gyros. This will be an event to long remember.

**\*SUNDAY SENDOFF BREAKFAST?** Great food, Sluice Juice, loads of friendship and hospitality served up by Elaine Douglas and her committee. This will be a very special time for everyone to bid farewell to new and old friends and to make promises about future times together. A time of sweet sorrow done to a turn.

Marty Larson introduced Robert Bles to our meeting and Robert explained the role that he and his staff will play in helping us to host guests from around North America. He took us on a tour of the Mayfield's many special facilities and then showed us the quality of the rooms and the suites. Absolutely outstanding - a real bargain for the prices asked. If you are planning to stay at the Inn, book your room or suite now. In a few weeks it might be too late to get the suite or room you would like to have for the time of the Convention.

This was a great evening and our thanks go to Marty and David for organizing it

We all came away much more aware of what to expect during those great days in July.

We also extend thanks to Brian and Kay Leeson (President, Edmonton Crossroads), Fred and Joyce Ryder (President, St. Albert), and Larry and Catherine Duschene (incoming President, St. Albert) for joining us for this meeting. We look forward to sharing the District and International Convention with you and with your club members. It was great of you to join us.

### BIRTHDAYS

We have had several birthdays since our last meeting. We hope your special day was special indeed.

Larry Wang	April 5th
Wes Van Dusen	April 12th
Fred Schulte	April 13th

### GYRO HOCKEY POOL

GAME 19      MARCH 23rd                      EDMONTON AT MONTREAL

1st Period	Sandy Rennie, R. L. Faltinson, Bob McNally
2nd Period	Mark Power, Dick Kulak, Lynnette Storoz
Final Score	Graham Payne, Carol Dobson

GAME 20      MARCH 30th                      MONTREAL AT OTTAWA

1st Period	Barbara Walker
2nd Period	Richard Larocque
Final Score	Richard Larocque

GAME 21      APRIL 6th                              CALGARY AT WINNIPEG

1st Period	Lorraine Getzinger, Shirley Larson, Bob McCullough
2nd Period	Bob Dean, Daniel Larson, Randy Popik
Final Score	Kendra Russell, Ken Weisgerber, Pat Anderson

Our thanks to Dave Duchak for his ongoing efforts to provide us with the names of the hockey pool winners. If only our Oilers could have done as well. Maybe next year.

### BOCCI NIGHT WINNERS

We gave the names of the Bocci Night winners a few issues ago but the

GORDON RENNIE TROPHY, newly minted and ever so appropriate, was awarded to Mike Matei on behalf of the victorious foursome by Mr Gyro himself, Gord. The teammates were Gunnar Anderson, Larry Duschene (St Albert), and Ken Foster (St Albert). Congratulations on winning the Gordon Rennie trophy.

### GYRO QUAD CLUB ANNUAL INSTALLATION BANQUET AND DANCE

This annual and special event will be hosted this year by the St Albert Club.

DATE: Saturday, May 11, 1996  
PLACE: Chateau Louis Conference Centre, Grand Ball Room  
11727 Kingsway Avenue  
TIME: Cocktails at 6:00, Dinner at 7:00, Ceremonies at 8:00 and  
Dancing at 9:30  
COST: \$65.00 per couple  
CONTACTS: Wayne Knight (459-3581), Jim Ross (458-4915), Gary  
Swinkels (458-2616), and Fred Ryder (459-7799)

Please plan to come and make this a memorable evening for everyone and particularly the inductees.

### BLACK HOLES

If you have read to this point, you may have been brought up short by this terse heading. No, it is not an excerpt from Stephen Hawking's famous treatise "A Brief History of Time: From the Big Bang to Black Holes". Hawking's dealt with celestial bodies. Gerry Glassford is here to attest to the fact that BLACK HOLES exist right in Edmonton. All that you have read to this point (a good part composed as he went along) disappeared into some great black hole, and like those which Hawkings describes, nothing could escape from the one in his computer despite hours of searching. And therein hangs the story of the delayed mailing of the Gyrolog - it had to be recreated. What was that you said about the beauty and wonder of technology? Well, it is true that I wonder about its beauty. I apologize for the delay.

### COMING EVENTS

May 4th Gyro/Gyrette Bridge Club wind up. 6:00 PM at the Balmoral Curling Club. Call Shirley and Marty Larson at 434-9692 for information.

May 7th Mayfair noon meeting with the installation of new members.

May 11th Quad Club Installation, Banquet and Dance (see above)

## GYRO INTERNATIONAL AND DISTRICT GOLF DAY

Allan Warrack and his committee have asked that we let everyone know that we have had a very strong expression of interest from Gyro/Gyrette golfers and that it is possible to guarantee a spot for the first sixty (60) golfers who register for the event AND PAY THEIR GREEN FEES. This assures their priority of place. Fees are \$50 (Cdn) and cheques should be made payable to the Edmonton Gyro Club. More details to follow. For immediate help, call Allan at 434-8206 (home) or 492-3998 (office).

### GYROLOG - APRIL 18

President Mike opened the April 16th Mayfair noon meeting and Gordon Rennie led "Cheerio". Rev. Wm. Graham gave the blessing. Mort Morter and Gord Rennie share birthdays on April 24th. Many happy returns to you both.

Bert Boren reported that he had talked to Bill Agnew. Although, and thankfully, Bill's tests of tissues taken from the chest arera were negative, he still has some discomfort. Bill is back at work and he sounded positive about being there. We wish you a full and speedy recovery, Bill

Our election of directors was completed and we are pleased that Victor Jagoldas and Fred Schulte will join the executive. Congratulations, gentlemen. Our appreciation to John Plunkett, Pat Rasko, John Tartar and Rollie Walsh who allowed their names to stand - wonderful contenders all.

Dave Burnett pronounced the convention meeting at the Mayfield Inn on Tuesday, April 9th, as very successful. Seventy six Gyros and Gyrettes enjoyed a wonderful meal, progress reports on the convention and an opportunity to make plans for our Klondike garb as members of the host club.

Barry Walker's convention registration update was most encouraging: from our Club we have 43 Gyro/Gyrette couples and 7 other Gyrettes. Total registration as of April 16th is 460. With the expected response in the next three months, the convention committee believes that the final count will be in the 600 range. Wonderful results for a wonderful effort.

Andy Friderichsen showed us a mockup of a silver teapot which he is creating and which he plans to have ready for the convention. Superlative design. He has also volunteered his services to provide a silver plate which will be affixed to the Brown scooter naming the Edmonton Gyro Club and the Brown family as the donors of the scooter to the Good Samaritan Hospital. Gerry Glassford reported that he and Mike Matei had picked up the scooter and delivered it to the Good Samaritan Hospital. They were delighted to receive it. A Key hand over ceremony will be organized to feature the Brown family, our club and the Hospital.

Dave Burnett initiated a warm Gyro experience when he presented the Gordon Rennie Bocci Tournament plaque to the man it honors. Our Retread responded in his

modest and gracious manner before handing the plaque to Mike Matei who was a member of the 1996 winning team.

A good, positive response was shown to Peter Carter's request that our club consider selling "Nevada" tickets for the Edmonton Klondike Days Association. Besides a fun time, our efforts could produce good revenue for our club. Details will follow.

Marty Larson had wondered aloud as to how we should acknowledge our 75th anniversary. Possibilities included the creation of such items as pins, golf tee shirts, etc. Allan Warrack suggested a post-convention dinner and Toni Sheppard suggested a club photo of all of our present members. Any other ideas/suggestions would be most welcome.



A  
FRATERNITY  
OF  
FRIENDSHIP

