



## THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

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SEPTEMBER 2010

Those celebrating their birthdays in September are **Gerry Glassford** on the 5th and **Michael Mant** on the 18th.

The September wedding anniversaries are **Bill Taylor** and **Marie Losier**, 7 years on the 1st; **Ken** and **Ruth Bowes**, 34 years on the 1st; **David** and **Marlene Burnett**, 44 years on the 3rd; **Warren** and **Vickie Garbutt**, 51 years on the 5th; **Mort** and **Jean Morter**, 59 years on the 5th; **Peter** and **Marjory Fairbridge**, 58 years on the 6th; **Allan** and **Elaine Douglas**, 42 years on the 7th; **Carlyle** and **Betty Anne Ross**, 42 years on the 14th; **John** and **Marion Boyd**, 42 years on the 21st; **Bruce** and **Margaret Foy**, 50 years on the 24th and **John** and **Yvette Stroppa**, 57 years on the 26th.

**President Bill Taylor** welcomed 70 Gyro's and Gyrettes to the **Corn Roast** held at the Malmo Community League Hall on Tuesday afternoon/evening, September 7th. Our special guests were **Past District Governor Bernie Kropp** and **Brenda** along with **Past District Secretary Sid Slade** and **Sharon**.

A **Bocce** tournament was also held between 4:30 and 6:00 pm. The winning team was **Elaine** and **Allan Douglas** and **Myrna** and **Jack Slobodan**. Thanks to the organizers, **Jack Ellis**, **Bill Taylor** and **Chuck Gerhart** for a great tournament!

**Past District Governor Gerry Glassford** was presented with a set of coffee cups dating back to 1934 to celebrate his 76th birthday. Congratulations **Gerry**!

**Past District Governor Bernie Kropp** convened the induction of new members, **Cliff French** and **Jim Lochhead**. He first asked **Chuck Gerhart**, sponsor for **Cliff** and **Barry Walker**, sponsor for

Jim to undertake a commitment to support their new members. Chuck Gerhart spoke of his 50 year friendship with Cliff French starting when they were classmates in pharmacy. Barry Walker spoke of his 7 year friendship with Jim Lochhead and their experiences in golf. PDG Bernie then proceeded to outline the founding of Gyro 98 years ago and asked each inductee if they were willing to commit to the goals and philosophy of Gyro International. Cliff's wife Sharon and Jim's partner, Sandy McDonald were given Gyro pins for placement on their respective mates. All those in attendance then proceeded to personally congratulate the new members.



**Sandy McDonald**

**Jim Lochhead**

**Cliff French**

**Sharon French**



**Barry Walker**

**Jim Lochhead**

**Bernie Kropp**

**Cliff French**

**Chuck Gerhart**

**Bill Taylor**

The **Corn Roast** and **Bocce Tournament** has become one of our most popular events and it could not happen without the hard work and dedication of **Valerie** and **Barry Walker**, **Janet** and **Roger Russell**, **Margaret** and **Bruce Foy**, **Marlene** and **David Burnett** and **Elaine** and **Allan Douglas**.

**Thanks for a great event!**



**Corn Roast Bocce Champions**

**Myrna Slobodan**

**Jack Slobodan**

**Elaine Douglas**

**Allan Douglas**

**President Bill Taylor** welcomed 77 Gyro's/Gyrettes and guests to the Royal Mayfair Golf Club on September 21st. **Roger Russell** led the group in the singing of Cheerio and **Jim Lochhead** presented the Grace. **Mort Morter** reported on the health of the club and indicated that there were no problems. **Dick Nichols** announced that the **2010-11 Hockey Pool** tickets were available and he encouraged everyone to buy some since half of the proceeds will be donated to a charitable organization.

**Len Stevens** introduced his friend of 35 years and guest speaker, **Mayor Stephen Mandel**. Stephen and Lynn Mandel and Len and Barbara Stevens and their children have grown up together in Edmonton. Stephen is known for his sense of humour and being a man of his word.

Prior to becoming Mayor in October 2004, Stephen Mandel had 30 years of private sector experience in Edmonton. As president of the Mandel Group, Stephen was involved in the development and construction of residential and commercial real estate. The Mandel Group was also involved in the operation of hotels and sports enterprises. Mayor Mandel remains active in the community and volunteers with organizations including the Mazankowski Heart Institute, the Heart and Stroke Foundation, the Jewish Community Centre and the Allen Gray Continuing Care Centre.

Mayor Mandel outlined some of the significant challenges and opportunities that face the City of Edmonton in the future: Expansion of the LRT, Expo 2017, our First Nations, Métis and Inuit population and New Immigrants.

The recently completed **South leg of the LRT** has been highly successful and will be a catalyst to new development. A new mindset was used for this expansion with more focus on architectural design and landscaping. This is in contrast to the development of the NE LRT in the 1970's and 80's where little attention was given to aesthetics or design and the alignment followed an industrial/commercial corridor. Experience has shown that well designed light rail systems in North America increase property values and attract more people.

The staging of the **EXPO 2017 World's Fair** presents a golden opportunity for Edmonton to define itself. Edmonton has a long-standing multi-cultural heritage which can be show-cased. There are a number of spin-offs that could be developed such as eco-tourism packages for visitors to see all parts of Alberta. The University of Alberta is a vital part of the city with \$400-500 million spent on research annually. The EXPO could also allow the University to more clearly define its future. The EXPO will attract a lot of federal and provincial money if the Edmonton bid is successful. New infrastructure such as bridges would be possible.

The community of Rosedale has an opportunity to celebrate its historical and aboriginal heritage. The year 2017 would also be an opportunity to celebrate the "New West" as part of Canada's 150th Anniversary.

Our **First Nations, Métis and Inuit** population is the fastest growing segment of our population in Canada. Fifty per cent of these citizens live in urban areas but the money still goes to the reserves. We have a generational problem that will take a tremendous dedication to improve their educational, healthcare and employment opportunities.

Edmonton has always been an ideal destination for **new immigrants** but we have seen a huge increase in immigration in the last five years. We must also deal with their social and economic issues before they become too large to manage. Some initial steps have been taken through the establishment of an African Centre in North Central Edmonton. There are 35 to 40,000 Africans living in Edmonton and they now have a structure through which their centre can identify issues or problems and have them addressed more expeditiously.

Edmonton and the regional municipalities have worked hard to improve their understanding of each other's issues and regional cooperation has improved significantly. Edmonton still needs a better allocation of provincial dollars to address infrastructure needs, homelessness and crime that affects or benefits the region but is mainly centred within Edmonton city limits.

A question was raised about the funding of solar panels by the city for residential homes. This program is part of a larger approach to keep and attract new young citizens. Our younger citizens don't necessarily vote but they are vital to the future of city. This is why the City of Edmonton has spent money on a new Art Gallery and other "soft" amenities. Ninety-eight percent of the city budget is spent on hard services such as roads, garbage pickup, bridges, policing and fire protection.

Another person asked: At what point does growth become a problem?; quality of life versus growth. Mayor Mandel responded by saying "that without growth, communities will stagnate and die, and young people will leave".

**Chuck Gerhart** thanked Mayor Mandel for presenting the challenges and opportunities facing Edmonton. Chuck also advised that we need to get more involved as "Canadians" to improve our society.

**Alan Rusler** was the winner of the free lunch.

Our annual **Gyro Day at the Races** was held at the Northlands Spectrum on Sunday afternoon, September 26th. A total of 70 people were in attendance, including 41 Gyro's/Gyrettes and 29 guests. The group enjoyed a buffet feast of Roast Striploin, Balsamic Chicken, vegetable medley, salads, desserts, coffee and tea. In-house pari-mutual betting was also available. **President Bill Taylor** and **Jack Slobodan** attended the Winners Circle at the end of the eighth race which featured the Gyro Club of Edmonton.

Thanks to **Val Pohl** and **John Boyd** for organizing this excellent event.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**The 2010 Annual Men's Bocce Night, along with our friends the St. Albert Gyro Club, Tuesday Evening, October 5th.**

**Location:** Italian Cultural Centre, 14230-133 Ave. Edmonton

**Time:** Bocce 5:00 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm followed by more Bocce

**Menu:** Slow Roast Baron of Beef, Caesar Salad, Italian Style Roast Potatoes, California Style Vegetables, Rolls and Butter, Apple Pie, Coffee and Tea.

**Cost:** \$35 with wine, \$30 without wine.

**Contact:** Mike Matei

**Gyrette Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, Tuesday Evening, October 12th**

**Time:** 6:00 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm

**Cost:** \$25

**Speaker:** Dr. Cliff Revell, Topic: Dental Implants

**Contact:** Joyce Brown

**Annual Founders Night with the Sherwood Park Gyro Club, Wednesday evening, October 20th**

**Time:** Cocktails 6:00 pm, Dinner 7:00 pm

**Location:** German Canadian Cultural Association, 8310 Roper Road

**This is not a mixed event!**

**Contact:** Bruce Foy

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO REGULAR LUNCHEON MEETINGS AT THE ROYAL MAYFAIR GOLF CLUB IN OCTOBER**

**GYRO District VIII-2010 CURLARAMA, November 5-7**

Host Club: Stampede City Gyro

Location; Banff, Alberta

Accommodation: Voyager Inn, 555 Banff Ave.

Price:\$225 per curler, \$160 non curler

Deadline for entries: November 1st.

Contacts: Paul Stout [pbstout@telus.net](mailto:pbstout@telus.net)

Dale Green [dale@dalegreen.com](mailto:dale@dalegreen.com)

**Gyro/Gyrette Christmas Party, River View Room, Shaw Conference Centre,  
Tuesday Evening, December 7th**

6:00 pm: Champagne and socializing

6:30 pm: Carved Roast Turkey dinner

Contacts: Fred Schulte and Leon Lubin