



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

**President-[Chuck Gerhart](#), Past President-[Bruce Swanson](#),
1st Vice-President-[Dunc Mills](#)**

**Secretary-[Barry Walker](#), Treasurer-[Gary Campbell](#),
Directors- [Ron Trant](#), [Doug Armstrong](#), [Ray Dallaire](#),
[Dan Hasinoff](#), [Fred Schulte](#) (Ex-Officio)**

**Database Administrator-[John Ross](#), Gyrolog Editor-[Fred Schulte](#)
Club Website: www.edmontongyroclub.com**

JULY 2020

Those celebrating their birthdays are **Jack Bowen** on the 1st, **Ray Dallaire** on the 16th, **Martin Marshall** on the 17th and **Leon Lubin** on the 18th. **Ken and Arden Korchinski**, 56 years on the 11th; **Barry and Valerie Walker**, 50 years on the 11th; **Jack and Joyce Brown**, 20 years on the 15th and **Taras and Pat Chmil**, 36 years on the 28th.

President Chuck Gerhart welcomed 24 Gyros and two guests, **Bill Dafoe**, and **George Schuller** to the sixth Zoom Video Teleconference on July 7th.

Ray Dallaire advised that he is back in Edmonton after a three-month delay in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. **Welcome back Ray and Donna!**

President Chuck introduced **David Burnett**, our second most senior member with 47 years in Gyro.

David and his twin sister, Katherine were born in Toronto on May 18, 1939 to Edith May and John Booth Burnett. David advised that his mother thought having twins was wonderful because she received more war-time food stamps. His father had emigrated from Scotland in 1927 and his mother was shipped to Quebec City from Liverpool, England in 1920 at twelve years of age as one of the "**Home Children**". Over 100,000 of these children were shipped to Canada, and 50,000 to Australia and other Commonwealth countries to work as domestic servants and labourers. The British government deemed these children to be "orphans" and were placed in "workhouses" which were little better than prisons. They did receive however basic medical care and as such were better off than many others of the working poor. As a result, the government decided to clear the workhouses and ship the children abroad.

David's mother, Edith May was assigned to work on a number of farms upon her arrival in Canada until age 18 when her "indentured service" ended and she was sent to Toronto where she gained her freedom and became employed as a domestic servant. She met her future husband, John, a labourer in Toronto in 1929. Notwithstanding experiencing an extremely difficult childhood, Edith May and two of her indentured lady friends thrived in Canada and lived well into their nineties.

David is one of the four million descendants of the Canadian Home Children. He had rheumatic fever as a youngster and missed the first seven years of school. He also benefited from the first use of penicillin at this time.

David received his education in Toronto and graduated from Vaughan Road Collegiate Institute with his Grade 13 Honours Diploma in 1959. He attended Queen's University and graduated with a business degree. After five years of articling, David received his CA Designation in 1964. In 1963 David met Marlene Howard who was visiting relatives in Toronto and a budding relationship began. Marlene was born in Prince Albert to Gordon and Ruby Morrison Howard. She received her training as a Registered Nurse in Prince Albert at Victoria Hospital and completed her post-graduate teaching credentials in Saskatoon. David and Marlene moved to Edmonton in 1966 and were married on September 3rd. A housing boom in 1966 meant that the Burnett's had to wait several months for an apartment to rent.

David began his career in Edmonton with Byers Transport Limited as their Controller. Pacific Western Airlines later acquired Byers which allowed the shipment of goods to Yellowknife by truck and then transport with Hercules aircraft to most Arctic communities. In 1973, Northern Transportation Company Limited (NTCL) approached David and he joined the company. In 1975 he was appointed Vice-President of Finance, Executive Vice-President in 1979 and became President and Chief Operating Officer in 1986. NTCL was a Crown Corporation but operated like a private company with a fleet of tugs and barges that serviced vast areas of Northern Canada. Its origins date back to the Second World War when uranium yellow cake was mined on Lake Athabasca and shipped by barge south for use in the Manhattan Project which developed the first atomic bombs in the U.S.A.

The Conservative government under Prime Minister Brian Mulroney privatized NTCL and it was purchased by two northern aboriginal companies in 1987. The beneficial shareholders were the Inuit of Nunavut and the Inuvialuit of the Western Arctic. David was President of the new company, NorTerra Inc. from its inception to his retirement in 1999.

In 2000, David was appointed to the Athabasca University Governing Council and served as Vice-Chair from 2002-2004 and Chair from 2004-2006. He has also been active with the 59th Scout Group in Edmonton, Habitat for Humanity and Dayspring Presbyterian Church.

David gave credit for his business success from great mentors and the dedication of Marlene who gave up her nursing career to raise their family. David and Marlene have raised two sons, Rob and Andrew and are the proud grandparents of Lucas, Morgan, Kelly, Scarlett, Rebecca, and Grace.

In 1973, he was invited by **Marty Larson** to attend a meeting of the Edmonton Gyro Club. David liked the club and the members he met and was officially inducted into the club on June 11, 1973. He served as a Director, then as **President in 1988-89**. He was Co-Chair of the 1996 International Convention held in Edmonton along with Barry Walker. They both received the **Award of Merit** for outstanding service to Gyro in **2001**. David served as District VIII Secretary in 2002 and was Co-Chair of the Sponsorship Fund Raising Committee of the Edmonton Gyro Club Prostate Cancer Golf Tournament held in 2004, 2005 and 2006.

One of the questions raised at the end of the presentation related to some paintings that had been found in a caretaker's closet in one of the office buildings occupied by NTCL. David, a newly minted senior executive suggested the paintings that were contained in three large wooden crates should be given a nominal value of one dollar each. A later review of the three paintings indicated that they might be more valuable and were then valued for insurance purposes at \$20,000 each. A formal appraisal ultimately determined that the three A.Y. Jackson original paintings were worth \$360,000.

A.Y. Jackson spent many years painting in Northern Canada and he was often given free passage on NTCL boats. Jackson gave the three paintings to the company as a gesture of thanks.

Editor's note: The more detailed information provided above is from a personal interview on April 19, 2013.



David and Marlene Burnett

President **Chuck** then introduced our most senior member, **Marty Larson**, who has been an Edmonton Gyro Club member for 56 years.

Marty was born in Lacombe, Alberta on November 14th, 1932 and lived in Alix from 1933-1939. His father, Stan was also born in the Lacombe area and was a grain buyer for the Alberta Pacific Grain Company. Marty's mother, Sylvia was born in New York City. Grandfather and Grandmother Larson emigrated from North Dakota. The great-grandfather Larson probably changed the family name from Larsen which was Danish when they emigrated to North America.

Marty was the oldest of four brothers and one sister and attended high school in Red Deer and Sylvan Lake. Stan Larson played senior men's baseball and brought in teams from the U.S.A. to play in tournaments. Marty started watching baseball at age three and was later the bat boy at many of these games and this love of baseball has continued to captivate him to this day.

He also played hockey including the position of goalie when he was in high school, but his career was short-lived; he was a better curler!

After high school Marty worked for the Royal Bank for six years starting in the Village of Standard and moving to Blairmore, Fairview and South Edmonton. He then worked in Northern Canada on the Distant Early Warning (DEW) Line in 1956-1957. In 1957, Marty started working for CFCW Radio in Camrose as an announcer. In 1958 he moved to CKRD in Red Deer and did the play by play for hockey and curling. Marty also did some sales work and announcing for the Central Alberta Hockey League. In 1959, **Shirley Dean** and four of her nursing graduate friends moved from the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon to Red Deer. They liked to watch hockey and curling, and before long Shirley noticed Marty announcing at the rinks. Marty and Shirley were married on October 8th, 1960.

In 1960 Marty started a four-year career with CFRN Television in Edmonton announcing the news and sports as well as football games and the pre-game show.

In 1963, Shirley and Marty's daughter Marcia was born. In 1964, he took a three months course in sales at First Investors which was owned by Don Cormie. Marty then went to work for Gairdner & Co., a national investment house. By 1967, he was manager of Gairdner's Edmonton Branch and in 1969 Marty and Shirley moved to Toronto when Marty became National Sales Manager for the company's 20 branches. They stayed for a year and a half and then moved back to Edmonton.

In 1971, Marty began a 17-year career with Pemberton Securities; Future Gyro, **Larry Dobson** was one of the first three staff hired. Marty was on Pemberton's Board of Director's for 16 years and was also Chair of the Investment Dealers Association of Alberta. He became a familiar voice to us for 17 years on CHQT's morning radio show dealing with financial investment matters. During the period 1987-96 Marty also did some television work on "Alberta Business." He served as an expert witness in court cases involving brokers and brokerage houses and in 1992, began a six-year stint with the Alberta Securities Commission. Another future Gyro, **Eric Spink** was employed as a legal financial consultant at the Commission during this period. By the year 2000, Marty had retired from the investment business but continued to handle a few private investment accounts.

Marty was introduced to the Gyro Club of Edmonton members by **Wes Van Dusen** and joined the club in 1964. Marty and Shirley have been active participants and champions of the GYRO fraternity having attended almost all International Conventions and have involved their three children, Marcia, Dean and Andrea in many local and international Gyro activities. Marty was President of the Edmonton Club in 1974-75, District VIII Governor in 1986 and **International President in 1992-93**. He was also awarded the Award of Merit for Outstanding Service to Gyro in 1989, the Jimmie Hubbell Award for External Expansion of a new club (St. Albert) in 1992, the **Honour Key**

Award (Gyro's Highest Recognition) in 1994 and the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2005. Marty was immensely proud to receive the **Ed Steinbacher Lifetime Achievement Award** from Mrs. Steinbacher in Milwaukee on July 23, 2005.

Marty and Shirley continue to travel the world and have taken 55 cruises to date.

Editor's note: The more detailed information provided above is from a personal interview in November 2012.



Shirley and Marty Larson

The winner of the virtual free lunch draw was **Ken Willan**.

President Chuck Gerhart welcomed 24 Gyros, two guests, **Bill Dafoe**, **Peter Ouellette** and our speaker, **Jan Conradi** to the Seventh Gyro Zoom Meeting on July 21st.

President Chuck recognized **Peter Carter** for his work in setting up and organizing our seven Zoom Conference Meetings. Peter will be given a free lunch on August 4th at our first meeting back at the University (Faculty) Club as a token of our appreciation.

Chuck Gerhart introduced our guest speaker **Dr. Jan Conradi** whose academic background is in Physics and Engineering, BSc. Engineering Physics, Queens University; MSc. Electrical Engineering, University Birmingham UK; PhD, Physics, Simon Fraser University. As he came near the end of his graduate studies, his driving ambition was to have a full-time job by the time he reached 30, which he succeeded in doing by a just a few months. Jan worked for RCA Limited in Montreal from 1969 to 1976 and Bell Northern Research from 1976 to 1989. He then held an NSERC Industrial Research Chair at the University of Alberta and TR Labs from 1990 to 1997. To complete his career Jan joined Corning Incorporated and retired as Director of Strategy for the company's Optical Communications Division in 2002.

In retirement, to keep the grey matter from atrophying too quickly, he has taken a strong interest in the science behind climate change. Jan has been focusing on the understanding of our changing climate and the consequences is having and will have on our daily lives. To this end he has given over 20 talks on climate change throughout British Columbia and Alberta.

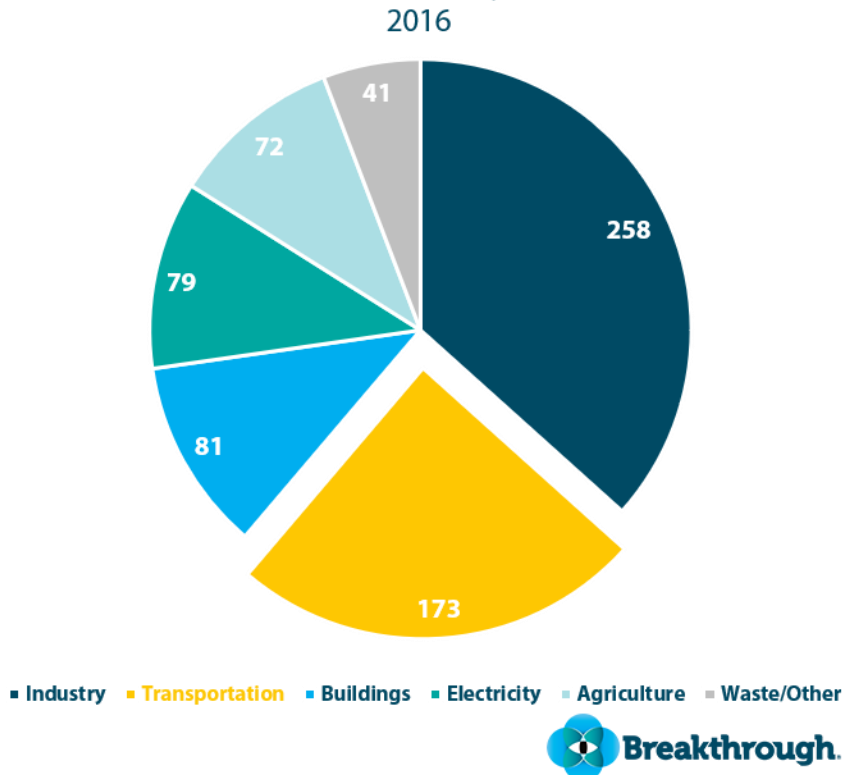
Dr. Conradi advised that most solar **energy** is absorbed at the surface, while most heat is radiated back to space by the atmosphere. **Earth's** average surface temperature is maintained by two large, opposing **energy** fluxes between the atmosphere and the ground —the **greenhouse effect**.

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂ and other greenhouse gases act like a blanket, absorbing IR radiation and preventing it from escaping into outer space. The net effect is the

gradual heating of Earth’s atmosphere and surface, a process known as **global warming**. Global warming is primarily a problem of too much carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. This carbon overload is caused mainly when we burn fossil fuels like coal, oil and gas or cut down or burn forests.

The burning of fossil fuels is the largest source of global warming. The Northern Hemisphere has warmed more than the South because of a larger landmass.

Canadian GHG Emissions by Economic Sector

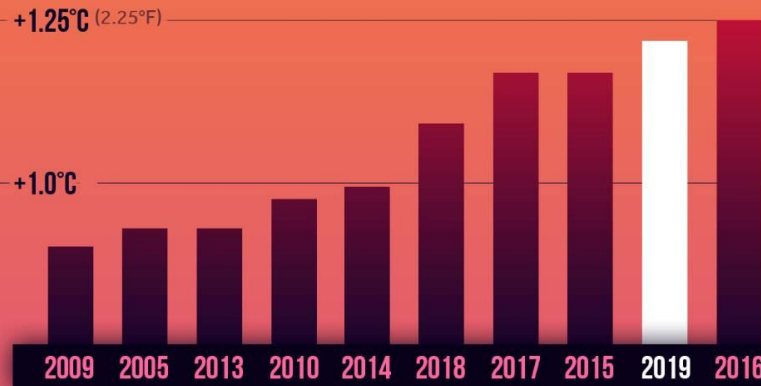


Extremely warm days are contributing to more extreme weather. The wildfires experienced in November 2018 destroyed 14,000 homes in Paradise, California. In 2019, Australia was devastated by wildfires after experiencing the hottest and driest year on record.

2019 was the 2nd warmest year on record—wrapping up the hottest decade ever recorded. The past five years have been the hottest five on record for the second year running.

10 HOTTEST YEARS ON RECORD GLOBALLY

Last 5 = Hottest 5



Source: NASA GISS & NOAA NCEI global temperature anomalies (°C) averaged and adjusted to early industrial baseline (1881-1910). Data as of 1/15/2020.

CLIMATE CENTRAL

Multiple Facets will be required to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Energy Conservation
- Political Engagement
- Carbon Capture and Storage (Carbon must stay in ground)
- Family Planning Education
- Renewable Energy Sources
- Transportation

We are now looking at **“Technology Disruption”** as opposed to Technology Change. Growth in the use of photovoltaic cells, wind towers and batteries will be exponential in time. Two thirds of crude oil go to the transportation sector. By 2025, half of the worlds new buses will be electric. It is expected that by 2023 there will be cost parity between new electric cars and fossil-fueled autos. There is the possibility that by 2030 that electric vehicles will have 50% penetration. Coal -Fired Power Plants are being phased out with many moving to natural gas fuel. The continued use of natural gas and liquified natural gas will be problematic if we do not stop the leakage of methane.

Conclusions:

Energy is becoming a Technology Industry.

Multiple pathways will be required to achieve significant change.

Ron Trant thanked our speaker for a detailed and farsighted presentation.

Peter Carter was the winner of the Virtual Free Lunch Draw.

It is with regret that we acknowledge the resignation of **Bill Donnelly**. He was sponsored by John Mann and joined our club in January 2019. We wish Bill the best in his future endeavours.



Head Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, Southern Alberta

“Fast Fred”

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, University (Faculty) Club, August 4th

Induction of new members, Ventriloquist: **Ari (Dutch Hoeksema)**

Speaker: **Jack Bowen**, Autobiography and Military Experiences

Team Leaders: **Chuck Gerhart** and **Fred Schulte**

Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, University (Faculty) Club, August 18th

Speakers: **Sheldon Weatherby** and **Dick Nichols**-Autobiographies

Team Leaders: **Chuck Gerhart** and **Fred Schulte**

Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, University (Faculty) Club, September 1st

Speaker: **Jim Lepp**

Topic: **The Fragility of Nations-The Mennonite Experience**

Team Leaders: **Chuck Gerhart** and **Jim Lepp**

Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, University (Faculty) Club, September 15th

Speaker: **Ron Trant**-Autobiography and "How to Hitchhike Properly"

Team Leaders: **Chuck Gerhart** and **Fred Schulte**