



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

President

Bill Taylor
780 430-0330

FEBRUARY 2011

1stVice-President

Ari Hoeksema
780 421-7776

Those celebrating their birthdays in February are **Bryce Van Dusen (96 Years)** on the 5th, **Dick Nichols** on the 8th, **Ken Willan** on the 9th and **Jack Ellis** on the 25th.

Past President

Leon Lubin
780 454-9712

The February wedding anniversaries are **Sam Gruden** and **Bea McKenzie**, 20 years on the 14th and **Larry** and **Rose Wang**, 45 years on the 26th.

Secretary

Barry Walker
780 475-0983

First Vice-President, Ari (Dutch) Hoeksema welcomed 41 Gyro's/Gyrettes and seven guests to the February 1st luncheon meeting held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club.

Treasurer

Mike Matei
780 930-1780

Gary Campbell led the group in the singing of *Cheerio* and **David Burnett** presented the *Grace*.

Directors

Chuck Gerhart
780 439-9792
Ken Willan
780 434-1306
Warren Garbutt
780-435-2961
Dick Moskalyk
780-435-6922

Allan and **Elaine Douglas** introduced their guests **Laverne Martin-Forbes** and **Dave Forbes**. "**Dutch Hoeksema**" introduced his guest **Art Merrick**. **Gerry Glassford** introduced our guest speaker, **Bradley Wamboldt** and his technical expert, **Kevin Mcisaac**, as well as his friends, **Jim Harkins** and **Bob Smyth**.

Gyrolog Editor

Fred Schulte
780 434-092

Gerry Glassford introduced **Bradley Wamboldt**, our guest speaker whose family roots are in Nova Scotia. Bradley graduated with a degree in Chemical Engineering from McGill and moved to Fort McMurray to work for Shell Canada. He then moved to **Suncor Energy** and is presently **General Manager of Tailings Operations**.

Mr. Wamboldt began his presentation by showing a short video that described the issues arising from the production of tailings which are left over material produced through the extraction process that separates bitumen from the oil sand. Tailings are a mixture of fine clay, sand, water and residual bitumen.

Tailings are pumped into holding ponds to settle solids from water. When tailings are released to a pond, the heaviest material—mostly sand—settles to the bottom, while water rises to the top.

The middle layer, the mature fine tailings (MFT), is made up of fine clay particles suspended in water. Some of these particles settle, but much remains suspended. The challenge is that MFT has historically taken many decades to firm up sufficiently for reclamation. As a result, Suncor has needed more and larger oil sands tailings ponds over the years.

Consolidated tailings (CT) technology, pioneered by Suncor in the 1990's has been the current method of speeding the consolidation of MFT. The CT process adds coarse sand and gypsum to the MFT to accelerate the release of water. While CT has proven effective, Suncor has continued to research and develop new and better processes to further accelerate MFT consolidation such as MFT drying.

In October 2008, Suncor initiated field testing of the **TRO Tailings Management Process**. This process involves converting fluid fine tailings more rapidly into a solid landscape suitable for reclamation. Mature fine tailings are mixed with a **polymer flocculent**, and then deposited in thin layers over sand banks with shallow slopes. The polymer flocculent adheres to the clay particles in MFT causing them to bundle together. This results in the separation of clay from water. The polymer flocculent is an anionic polyacrylamide, a class of chemical commonly used in municipal water treatment facilities to settle out solids. The chemical is inert and does not react with the environment.

The resulting product is dry material that is capable of being reclaimed in place or moved to another location for final reclamation. This drying process occurs over a matter of weeks, allowing for rapid reclamation activities to occur.

The use of TRO over CT technology at Suncor's oil sands mining operations is expected to result in a shorter time to reclamation. It is expected that the TRO process will result in a reclaimable surface 10 years after initial disturbance. Estimated time to a reclaimable surface using the CT technology approach is approximately 30 years.

Suncor is highly motivated to accelerate the pace of tailings. Firstly, the Energy Resources Conservation Board issued regulations in February 2009 that set annual targets for reducing MFT and require tailings ponds to be ready for surface reclamation within five years of the ponds becoming inactive. Secondly, Suncor operates eight tailings ponds which cover a total area of 31.5 square kilometres and contain 259 million cubic metres of MFT. Active tailings ponds account for 18 percent of the 17,161 hectares disturbed land Suncor is currently working to reclaim. Reclamation of Pond 1, which was constructed 40 years ago, was fully reclaimed in September 2010 using the TRO process. Six hundred thousand trees will be planted on this reclaimed pond site.

In June 2010, Suncor received approval from the provincial regulatory agencies to use the TRO process commercially. Suncor allocated \$450 million for TRO technology as part of its 2010 capital spending plans. **No new tailings ponds will be required with the implementation of the TRO Tailings Management Process.**

For more information on this topic, visit; www.suncor.com/tailings

Gary Campbell thanked our speaker for a very informative presentation on an important Alberta environmental issue.

Thanks to the team of **Gerry Glassford**, **Gary Campbell** and **Andy Friderichsen** for organizing this speaking event.

The free lunch draw was won by **Chuck Gerhart**.



Suncor's dry tailings using the TRO Tailings Management Process

SUCCESS:

AT AGE 4 SUCCESS IS	NOT PEEING IN YOUR PANTS
AT AGE 12 SUCCESS IS	HAVING FRIENDS
AT AGE 16 SUCCESS IS	HAVING A DRIVERS LICENCE
At AGE 35 SUCCESS IS	HAVING MONEY
AT AGE 50 SUCCESS IS	HAVING MONEY
AT AGE 70 SUCCESS IS	HAVING A DRIVERS LICENCE
AT AGE 75 SUCCESS IS	HAVING FRIENDS
AT AGE 80 SUCCESS IS	NOT PEEING IN YOUR PANTS

From "Dutch" Hoeksema Author Unknown

[The Alberta Centre on Aging](#) at the University of Alberta has completed the adjudication process for the 2010-2011 Gyro Club of Edmonton, Graduate and Undergraduate Scholarships in Aging. **Valerie Fedorak**, a student in the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences has been selected to receive this year's undergraduate award of \$700. The Selection Committee also chose **Sarah Lucas**, a Master's student in Human Ecology to receive the graduate scholarship of \$1200 whose area of interest is the improvement of senior's quality of life. **Merrill Tanner** was chosen as the PhD scholarship recipient of \$1200 whose area of interest in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine is the creation and testing of a singing and vocalization program for people with Parkinson's disease.

Your Gyrolog Editor, **Fred Schulte** attended the [February 11th](#) Research on Aging: Nosh, Nibble and Network 2011 event at the University of Alberta and presented the scholarships to this year's winners on behalf of the Gyro Club of Edmonton. A cheque in the amount of \$2000 was also presented to Dr. Adrian Wagg, Interim Director of the Alberta Centre on Aging which will be added to the endowment principal of the **Centre for Gerontology Fund**.



**Centre for Gerontology Fund
Gyro Club of Edmonton PhD. Graduate Scholarship Award
Fred Schulte Merrill Tanner**

Larry Dobson welcomed 41 Gyro's/Gyrettes and two guests to the **Annual Valentines Party** held at the Derrick Club on Tuesday evening, February 15th. Roger Russell led the group in the singing of Cheerio and Jim Lochhead presented the Grace. Our two guests were Elaine Warick, Director of Patron Development, **Edmonton Symphony Orchestra** (ESO) and Bonnie Yeager, violist, ESO.

The group enjoyed a choice of entrees that included Alberta Prime Rib of Beef with Yorkshire pudding, Breast of Chicken Extreme and broiled Pacific Filet of Salmon.

A wonderful Valentines story was given by Blanche Friderichsen. In 1955, Andy Friderichsen was courting Blanche and was phoning her almost every day for a date. As Blanche said, "once in a while a girl needs to stay home and wash her hair". On

one particular night, Blanche told Andy that she was busy and was going out with "George". About an hour later, Blanche's doorbell rang and Andy was at the door wearing false glasses and a big plastic nose and said I am George! Valentines was celebrated shortly thereafter and Andy sent a card to Blanche with a note saying "from the two of us". Andy and Blanche will be celebrating their 55th wedding anniversary on August 28th and are entering their 90th and 86th years respectively.



Andy and Blanche Friderichsen

Larry Dobson introduced **Elaine Warick**, the Director of Patron Development at the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra (ESO). The Francis Winspear Centre for Music is the home of the ESO, providing a world class performance venue, rehearsal and library space and administrative offices. The ESO is highly regarded in North America and has been invited to play in New York City at Carnegie Hall next year. Elaine was pleased to introduce **Bonnie Yeager** who joined the ESO in 2010 fresh from a position as acting assistant principal viola with the Phoenix Symphony Orchestra.

Bonnie indicated that she started to play the **viola** at age two, took the Suzuki Program in Cincinnati, Ohio and then furthered her viola musical career in high school in Michigan. Bonnie then completed her BSc and MSC in music in Cleveland. The viola is similar in material and construction to the violin but larger in size and more variable in its proportions. A "full-size" viola's body is between one and four inches longer than the body of a full-size violin. Unlike the violin, the viola does not have a standard full size. For centuries, viola makers have experimented with the size and shape of the viola, often tweaking the proportions or shape of the instrument to create a design with a shorter string length and lighter weight, but that still has a large enough sound box to create an unmistakable "viola sound". The viola is generally strung with thicker strings than the violin. This combined with its larger size and lower pitch range, results in a deeper and mellower tone. The viola's four strings are normally tuned in fifths: C3 (an octave below middle C) is the lowest, with G3, D4 and A4 above it. This tuning is exactly one fifth below the violin, so that they have three strings in common-G,D and A and is one octave above the cello. Although the violin and viola have three strings tuned the same, the tone quality or sound colour is markedly different. The viola dates back furthest in the history of stringed instruments, but has only come into being in a big way in the 20 Century.

Bonnie then proceed to play three different pieces of music with her viola which clearly demonstrated her skill and the rich, mellow and somewhat unusual sounds she was able to showcase for our benefit.

Our **President, Bill Taylor** made a request to play his "instrument" with Bonnie Yeager. It turns out that Bill has some unknown musical skills that he developed as a young man. The instrument is known as a "gut bucket". Bill and Bonnie played a couple of short ditties including "Turkey in the Straw". We are still not sure about Bill's musical abilities but Bonnie was able to quickly pick up the tunes and add immeasurably to the quality of the presentation.

Bill Taylor thanked Bonnie for her excellent viola playing and her passion and empathy for her profession. **Cliff Revell** presented a red rose to each of the ladies present at the event.

Dick Nichols reported on the results of the Hockey Pool.

Game 11	January 26	Winners	First Period	Second Period	Final
Oilers vs. Stars					
First	0	1	Scarlett Burnett	Owen Rolleman	Owen Rolleman
Second	1	3	Ari Hoeksema	Kennedy Brown	Kennedy Brown
Final	1	3	Jean Thompson	Morgan Weisberger	Morgan Weisberger

Game 12 February 2	Winners	First Period	Second Period	Final	
Oilers vs. Kings					
First	0	0	Ben Connolly	Sara Baird	Morgan Burnett
Second	1	2	Bernie Kropp	Emott Douglas	Ashley Salkeld
Final	1	3			

Game 13 February 9	Winners	First Period	Second Period	Final	
Oilers vs. Hawks					
First	0	1	Terrie Ellis	Jack Ellis	Justin Bergevin
Second	0	2	Kelly Russell	Preston Russell	Jean Warrack
Final	1	4			

Game 14 February 17	Winners	First Period	Second Period	Final	
Oilers vs. Canadiens					
First	1	0	Chuck Gerhart	Sharon Matei	John Stroppa
Second	1	1	Morgan Power	Cory Russell	Gordon Rennie
Final	4	1	Valerie Walker	David Geddes	Brooke Weisberger



Bill Taylor and Bonnie Yeager

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regular Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, March 1st

Speakers: Mark Ward, General Manager and Steven Nichols, Operations Manager, Studio Post.

Topic: The development of a successful Edmonton based company in the highly competitive North American communications market. Studio Post specializes in television commercials, infomercials and educational movies.

Contact: Dick Nichols

Gyrette Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, March 8th

Time: 6:00 pm, Dinner 6:30

Cost \$25

Speakers: Leslie Stewart and Arlene Burton, Salvation Army

Contact: Gayle Houston

District VIII Interim Convention, Fairmont Hot Springs Resort.

March 11-13, 2011

Registration Fee per couple \$225, Single \$112.50 Make cheques payable to GYRO District VIII, mail to: Al Dyck, 2005 13th Ave. S, Cranbrook B.C V1C 6L7

Hotel Room Rates: March 11 and 12, \$99/Single or Double Room plus 2% BCYHA, plus 12% HST, \$159/Suite plus 2% BCYHA, plus 12% HST.

Reservations by February 17th: 1-800-663-4979 Email: info@fhsr.com

The 2011 District VIII Convention, Wallace Idaho, June 16-19

Registration Fee: \$375 couple or \$187.50 single

Co-Chairmen: David DeRoos and Mike Hull

Convention Information:

<http://www.wallacegyros.com/resources/Registration%20Form2.pdf>