



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

President-Jack Bowen, Past President-Ron Trant

1st Vice-President-Georg Schuller

Secretary-Barry Walker, Treasurer-Larry Dobson

Directors- Bruce Foy, Jim Lepp, Sheldon Weatherby, Martin Marshall

Peter Carter (Ex-Officio) Dunc Mills (Ex-Officio)

Database Administrator-Chuck Gerhart, Gyrolog Editor-Fred Schulte

Club Website: www.edmontongyroclub.com

NOVEMBER 2023



Lest We Forget

BIRTHDAYS: Marty Larson turned 91 on November 14th.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: Jack and Terrie Ellis, 57 years on the 19th and Jim and Gayle Lepp, 65 years on the 22nd.

Dunc Mills played an introductory tune on the xylophone and **Vice-President Georg Schuller** welcomed 24 Gyros and one guest to the November 7th luncheon meeting held at the Derrick Golf and Winter Club.

Chuck Gerhart led the singing of Cheerio and **Val Pohl** introduced his friend and neighbour, **Joe Buchan**.

Doug Armstrong gave a Robbie Burns grace.

Some hae meat and canna eat,
And some wad eat that want it,
But we hae meat and we can eat,
And sae the Lord be thankit."

District Governor, Dunc Mills inducted our newest member, **Stan Miller**. Stan is a Correctional Officer and he and his partner, **Deanna** reside in Edmonton.



Dunc Mills Stan Miller Fred Schulte

Fred Schulte presented the **Schulte Family History**.

My great grandfather, **Theodore Schulte-Gerling** and his wife **Frances Erling** emigrated from Westphalia, Germany in 1884, through Ellis Island in New York City. The hyphenated name was dropped at this time and the couple settled on a pioneer farm in Newton County, Missouri. We pronounce our family name **Schulte**, but in German it was **Schulta**, and it meant the Village Magistrate or Sheriff.

My grandfather, **Theodore Schulte** was born in June of 1887 in Newton County and educated in Cleveland, Ohio, and New York City. In 1909, he graduated with the equivalent of an electrical engineering degree.

Theodore came to Alberta in the Autumn of **1909** and travelled west of Edmonton and then worked in the Calgary area.

He was befriended by an RCMP officer who suggested that with his electrical engineering skills he should contact the **Canadian Pacific Railway's Irrigation Department in Strathmore**. In 1911 Theodore joined the organization as a telephone inspector and by 1917 was promoted to Superintendent of Telephones and Electrical Equipment.

Theodore's future wife **Jessie Milne Stott** was born in Montreal in 1893 and completed a shorthand and typewriting course at Miss Graham's Business College in 1908. She travelled to Calgary in 1911 and was employed as a stenographer at the Department of Natural Resources, Canadian Pacific Railway. **In 1912 Jessie was transferred to Strathmore** where the CPR was establishing a demonstration farm to encourage settlers to go in for mixed farming and alfalfa growing.

Theodore and Jessie met in Strathmore and were married in Calgary in January 1915.

My father, **Theodore (Ted) Milne Schulte** was born in Strathmore, August 2016.

Immediately after the First world War, Western Canada developed under somewhat lax regulation. Many projects were carried out by men completely unqualified to hold positions of engineering responsibility. Although no engineering disasters were recorded, waste of money and resources and poor engineering were evident everywhere.

An Act to regulate the Engineering Profession and to incorporate the Association of Professional Engineers of Alberta was given Royal Assent on **April 10, 1920**.

Theodore Schulte was admitted as a member of the Association in June of 1920 as a Professional Electrical Engineer and served on Council in 1921-22.

His second child, **Lois Helen Schulte** was born in 1921.

Ted Schulte attended grade school in Strathmore and then entered the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Alberta in 1936 graduating with a **Civil Engineering degree in 1940.**

He joined Calgary Power Limited in May 1940 and spent most of his career working in the company's hydro system.

Theodore and Jessie lived in Strathmore until 1945 and then moved to Calgary where Theodore finished his career with the Department of Natural Resources of the CPR. He retired in 1952 and they moved to Whiterock, B.C.

My mother, **Margaret Gardiner**, daughter of **Cecil Merritt Gardiner** and **Mary Georgia Alford** was born in Chicago, Illinois in January 1912. Margaret's brother, Cecil Merritt junior was born in 1909 in **Dundee, Mississippi.**

The Gardiner family moved to Alberta in 1914 and purchased a homestead in the Kirkcaldy area south of Vulcan. Margaret finished her second year of high school in Vulcan in 1928 and attended Normal School in Calgary on a government loan in 1930-31. Margaret's father convinced a School Trustee to give his daughter a chance.

Margaret achieved exceptional success in teaching reading and was loved by her pupils. She taught grades **one to nine** in two different one-room schools in the Kirkcaldy area. Her father died at the age of 51 in 1933. Margaret and her mother were now on their own. The household goods were sold at an auction sale and the farmland was rented out.

Mary Gardiner, who still retained American citizenship moved to Schenectady, New York in 1934 where she lived with her son, Cecil.

Margaret continued to teach in the Kirkcaldy area until 1938 and then decided that farm life was not for her. **She moved to Eckville and taught in the 1939-40 school term.**

Her friends encouraged her to apply for a **teaching job in Banff** as advertised in the Calgary Herald. Margaret was offered a job teaching grade one in July 1940 at a salary of \$1000 per year. **She fell in love with Banff and took up hiking and skiing.** I remember my mother's stories of her winter adventures hiking into the base of local mountains and putting skins on their skis and climbing to the top of a big hill and then racing down and then repeating the adventure one or two more times.

My father Ted was stationed in Banff in 1940 and 1941 while working on the **Lake Minnewanka/Cascade Hydro project**. He and Margaret met for the first time in early 1941 at a dinner dance at the Banff Springs Hotel. They were engaged in the spring of 1942 and married in Calgary in July.

I was born in Calgary on April 13th, 1944, and my sister **Sandra** was born on the same date two years later.

My parents rented a house in southwest Calgary from 1942 to 1950. I clearly remember the simplicity of life, **Union Milk** delivered to the house with a horse drawn wagon, ice for our ice box was cut from the Bow River and delivered weekly by horse and wagon.

My father designed a new house and had it built in 1950 in the Scarborough Heights neighbourhood. Daily shopping life improved drastically for my mother when they acquired a **new Frigidaire**. Shopping could now be limited to one or two trips weekly to the grocery store.

However, I can remember my mother having to put up with a table saw for two years in the living room while my dad completed all the interior finishing of the house. She said that **more money was spent on lumber than groceries!**

Calgary was a pretty small city in the mid 1950's with a population under 200,000 and not a lot of traffic. I could ride my bicycle to the north side of Calgary with a sack and collect beer bottles along Highway 1A for one cent each.

I attended grades 1-9 at Sunalta School and then Western Canada High School. I wasn't interested in team sports but track and field events were a good outlet for my energy. My mother returned to primary school teaching in the Altadore community.

In the spring and summer of **1963, I worked at the Brazeau Dam project** where Calgary Power's largest hydro-electric plant was under construction. I grew up quickly at the age of 19 where 500 Mannix construction workers were housed in bunkhouses. They could feed 150 men at a time, and we waited our turn and ate without talking.

I had earned enough money to pay for most of my tuition and residence fees when I started at the **University of Alberta in September 1963**. I had a lot of fun and not much studying. As a result, I received a dean's letter and was not allowed to return the following year.

I worked at the Brazeau Dam project again in the summer of 1964 on a survey crew.

In the **fall of 1964**, I enrolled in the **Survey Technology course** at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology. I worked hard and enjoyed the field work, but my math skills were deficient, and I flunked out again.

I returned to the University of Alberta and completed two years of a Bachelor of Arts program with a major in geography. **In early 1966**, I met a young lady named **Paulette Bietz**, who was finishing up her **Dental Hygiene program**. Things clicked for us, and we were engaged in the summer of 1967. I decide to complete my final year at the University of Calgary, so that we could be in the same place. **We were married in High River in May 1968** and were treated to small town hospitality. After the wedding meal was finished, the whole town was invited to the wedding dance. My father and Paulette's father Paul were both relieved when I finally received a BA with a major in geography in October of 1968.

I applied for a geographer position in Edmonton with the Water Resources Division of Alberta Agriculture and **started working in December 1968**. Paulette resigned her position with the Mount View Health Unit, and we rented an apartment in Edmonton in January 1969.

Margo, our first daughter was born in December 1970 and **Jill** our second daughter arrived in April 1975.

I immediately loved the work with the provincial government and took my responsibilities seriously. I had good mentors and took on a wide variety of projects that included **river basin planning, lakeshore development protection and land reclamation**.

In May 1981, **my father Ted, retired after a 41-year** career with Calgary Power Ltd. He was involved in engineering reconnaissance surveys for all the major hydroelectric projects including the Brazeau Dam and Bighorn/Lake Abraham.

In **1984**, I took on the role of **Director of Environmental Assessment** which included the review of four new pulp and paper mills in northern Alberta. In **1992**, I was asked to help with the development of new environmental protection legislation and in 1993, I assumed the **role of enforcer as the Director of Pollution Control**.

Nobody wanted to be my friend, but with a very capable team of investigators and legal staff were able to develop enforcement and environmental protection tools that were designed for success. We started with the question; **how would, we like**

to be treated if we were on the receiving end of enforcement? No individual or company wants to get bad news in the mail.

Standard operating procedure was to make a personal call to the company representative and advise that an investigation had been completed and enforcement action was being considered. However, we would like to meet in person, present our evidence and make sure we had the correct facts.

This procedure worked extremely well, and most companies were embarrassed that they had contravened the regulations or reporting requirements.

I was also fortunate to be mentored by one of the senior Deputy Ministers, so I could deal more effectively with some of the political environmental issues. On several occasions, I was asked to **meet with unhappy landowners who had longstanding disputes with oil companies**. I always took a local inspector on these field trips and listened to the sometimes very angry landowner about their concerns. I was from head office, so I had to accept some abuse, but in the end, they thanked me for listening and always invited us in for coffee and pie. In most of these longstanding disputes, nobody could remember who did what first. Many times, after a phone call to the oil company rep, a conciliatory move to the landowner ended a 20-year dispute.

I continued for a total of 31 years and **retired earlier than I had planned in January 2001 because of direct political interference**. Times had drastically changed from the early days of Peter Lougheed's government, but I still had a wonderful and rewarding career in government.

For the first year after my retirement in 2001, I spent 9 months going through Paulette's job jar and completing the tasks that we had neglected for so many years.

I then started to do a little more running to keep fit but didn't have all the skills needed to stay healthy and prevent injuries. In early **2003, I enrolled in a Running Room clinic** and trained for a **10km run**. There were 15 women in the clinic and one male, me. We had a great time and developed a decade-long friendship. After successfully completing the 10km clinic, we all agreed that a **half marathon of 21km** would be our next challenge. The training was hard, but it paid off and by July of 2003, most of our original class successfully completed the race.

I was hooked and entered several half marathon races in Alberta and British Columbia. I ran 17 half marathons and 12 Full Marathons between July 2003 and January 2015. It became a healthy addiction which consisted of **50% training and 50% will power**.

My fastest marathon times were completed in Vancouver and Sacramento, California and the most memorable races were in Boston, New York City and Chicago. I ran over **23,000 kms** in training and races in that 12-year period!

Paulette and I continue to enjoy the **greatest career in the world**, being **grandparents**. Four of our seven grandchildren are now adults.

Dunc Mills gave an update on the **Curlarama** held in Canmore on November 3-5. **Team Edmonton: Mike Matei, Chuck Gerhart, Dunc Mills, and coach Larry Dobson** won the first two games against the Calgary and Stampede City clubs but went down to defeat to **Sherwood Park** who took home the “**A**” **Event** trophy. Thanks to the **Stampede City** and **Calgary Gyro Club’s** for organizing a first-class event!



Team Edmonton

Chuck Gerhart

Mike Matei

Dunc Mills

Larry Dobson

Marty Larson was the Free Lunch winner!

Past President Ron Trant hosted the **Past Presidents Dinner** at the Millwoods Golf Course Nineteenth Grille on Wednesday evening, November 15th. Fifteen Past Presidents were in attendance. We were treated to a grand buffet of roast beef and Ukrainian food with all the trimmings.

Ari (“Dutch”) Hoeksema, President, 2011-2012 read a Gyro Song authored by our recently departed friend, **John Boyd**.

My God,
Thank God, you're still alive,
Well, Hello,
Our friendship will survive.
We'll eat and sing, make the rafters ring,
With energy and drive.
Don't care where you're from,
Please join our Gyro throng.
Let's all clap, in praise of that,
And in tolerance get along!

Each Past President described the events that led to their decision to join GYRO.

A common theme was the true, uncompromising friendship displayed early in their involvement with Gyro.

President Jack Bowen was encouraged to rely on any or all Gyro members for assistance with any issue.



**Ari Hoeksema Walter Yakimets Mike Matei Larry Dobson Fred Schulte Chuck Gerhart
Dunc Mills Jack Little Peter Carter Bruce Foy
Marty Larson David Burnett Jack Bowen Ron Trant Leon Lubin Roger Russell**

Governor Dunc Mills played an introductory tune on the xylophone and **President Jack Bowen** welcomed 42 Gyros, Gyrettes and six guests to our **November 21st luncheon meeting** held at the Derrick Golf and Winter Club.

Chuck Gerhart led the singing of Cheerio and **Sheldon Weatherby** presented the Grace.

Ron Trant welcomed his guest, **Nick Ritson-Bennett**, **Marty Larson** introduced **Glen Dobson**, **President Jack** introduced **Warren Hall** and **David Burnett** introduced his son, **Andrew**.

David Burnett introduced **Emily Ball, Director of Community Relations, University of Alberta** who has had a long association with *The Speakers Bureau*. The Bureau connects scholars and researchers with community members.

David introduced our guest speaker **Geoffrey Martin Rockwell, Full Professor, University of Alberta, Department of Philosophy.**

Education

Doctor of Philosophy, University of Toronto, 1987-1995

Thesis: A Unity of Voices, A Definition of Philosophical Dialogue

Languages: English, Italian, French

*15 May 2018, Professor Geoffrey Rockwell named **Co-Chair of AI, People, and Society Initiative sponsored by the ATB Lab.** This collaborative partnership with the University of Alberta brings together diverse thinkers and experts from across humanities, design, social sciences, technology, and beyond to help shape a future that benefits all.*



Professor Rockwell began his presentation with the example of **Google Duplex (May 8, 2018)**, a new technology for conducting natural conversations to carry out “real world” tasks over the phone. The technology is directed towards completing specific tasks, such as scheduling certain types of appointments. For such tasks, the system makes the conversational experience as natural as possible, allowing people to speak normally, like they would to another person, without having to adapt to a machine. Examples would be “ummm” and “aaah.”
This is deception by design!

ChatGPT is a large language model-based chatbot developed by **OpenAI** and released on November 30, 2022. The system allows you to:

- Ask questions but is limited to current knowledge.
- Upload a file and ask for questions.
- Ask it to write and run code.
- Ask it to generate an image.

You now can create your own **GPT** (Generative Pre-trained Transformer)

Perplexity Ai-January 2023, a conversational search engine.

Elicit.org -The Ai Research Assistant.

LEX. Page- A writing tool, knows data up to 2021.

Replica.com- You can create a companion, converse with it, take selfies and interact in a companion room.

GPTs-OpenAI- November 6, 2023, allows ChatGPT users to create custom versions of its AI assistant that will undertake specific tasks at work or home.

ChatGPT Plus released in February 2023. A conversational AI that can chat with you, answer follow-up questions, and challenge incorrect assumptions.

Large language models (LLMs) have been a breakthrough in natural language processing, but they also come with their own set of challenges. Here are some of the challenges of LLMs:

1. **Computational resources:** Training and running LLMs require significant computational resources, including specialized hardware and extensive memory. [This makes it challenging for researchers to explore various training strategies](#) ¹.
2. **Data privacy:** [Pre-training corpora used to train LLMs may contain personally identifiable information \(PII\), such as phone numbers and email addresses, resulting in privacy leaks during prompting](#) ².

3. **Domain-specific knowledge:** LLMs may not have enough domain-specific knowledge to generate accurate and relevant content for certain tasks³.
4. **Bias:** LLMs can learn and perpetuate biases present in the training data, leading to biased outputs³.
5. **Interpretability:** LLMs are often considered black boxes, making it difficult to understand how they generate their outputs³.

These challenges are being addressed by researchers and developers in the field, and new techniques are being developed to overcome them.

Microsoft has the server farms to support AI which result in **huge electrical generation costs**.

Dangers and Opportunities to Society

- **ELIZA Effect** A phenomenon in computer science where people tend to project human traits such as experience, semantic comprehension, or empathy into computer programs that have a textual interface. This effect is a category mistake that arises when the program's symbolic computations are described through terms such as "think", "know", or "understand"¹. The effect is named after ELIZA, a chatbot developed by MIT computer scientist Joseph Weizenbaum in 1966.
- **Malicious Gaming of System**
- **Privacy and Bias**
- **Hallucinations and Misinformation** Deep fakes such as pretending to be your grandchild and asking for money.
- **AI can** emotionally manipulate children.
- **Economic Disruption**
- **Algorithmic Governance**

The relevance of dealing with algorithmic governance becomes evident about competing narratives of what *changes* in governance when it makes use of algorithms: one narrative is for example that governance becomes **more powerful**, intrusive, and pervasive. A different narrative stresses that governance becomes **more inclusive**, responsive, and allows for more social diversity.

- **AI can** lead to productivity improvement and innovation.

- **AI** can also result in **loss of jobs** that could lead to social disruption.
- **AI**s reproduce and will evolve leading to superintelligence and potentially uncontrollable AI that is unaligned with our values.

Chuck Gerhart thanked **Geoffrey** for an informative and educational presentation. Geoffrey was presented with a copy of the book authored by our **Doug Armstrong** Entitled "*Giants of the Pacific Northwest The Hunt Family Totem Poles*".

Jack Brown was the Free Lunch Dinner.





Mary (Jean) Morter (nee Cruikshank) passed away peacefully, with family by her side on November 16th at the age of 95.

Jean was born and raised in Lacombe, Alberta. She met her future husband **Lloyd (Mort)** in high school and went on to graduate as a nurse from the Calgary General Hospital before marrying. She stopped working as a nurse to raise her family but kept in touch over the last 70 years with many of her classmates, enjoying lifelong friendships.

Jean and Mort built 2 cabins at Gull Lake and spent many summers there with their 4 boys, other relatives, and friends. Her children and grandchildren were introduced to her "Gull Lake Special" sandwich (peanut butter and banana) as well as her famous chocolate chip cookies. The boys continue to enjoy life at the lake, the community and the surrounding area.

Jean was heavily involved with the Daughters of the Nile (Shriners) and the **Gyrettes (Gyro Club)**. She and Mort volunteered countless hours for both organizations over the years.

Jean was predeceased by her husband of 67 years in 2019. Left to mourn her loss are her sons Douglas, David (Donna), Bruce (Jan) and Bob. Grandchildren: Jeff, Julie, Nicole, Lauren (Steven), Mark and Stuart as well as great grandson James.

Mort was introduced to Gyro by **Marty Larson in 1972** and served as **President** in **1985-86**. Mort also served as Secretary to Marty Larson during his tenure as District Governor in 1986-87.

Chuck Gerhart and **Dunc Mills** report on the **Hockey Pool Winners**.

Game 1 October 29	Winners	First Period	Second	Final
Oilers vs Flames				
First Period	3 1	Walter Yakimets	Warren Garbutt	Myrna Gerhart
Second	3 2	Jeremy Hastings	Bronwyn Swanson	Sandra Foy
Final	5 2	Walter Yakimets	Rebecca Warrack	Janet Douglas

Game 2 November 11	Winners	First Period	Second	Final
Oilers vs Kraken				
First Period	4 0	Marie Losier	Marie Losier	Val Pohl
Second	4 0	Lloyd Wilson	Lloyd Wilson	Guy Taller
Final	4 1	Chris Sellar	Chris Sellar	Chuck Gerhart

Game 3 November 20	Winners	First Period	Second	Final
Oilers vs Panthers				
First Period	2 2	Gary Campbell	Grace Burnett	Shirley Larson
Second	3 4	Cliff Nowry	Gary Campbell	Leanne Dobson
Final	3 5	Jack Brown	Walter Yakimets	Mike Matei

Fast Fred

Upcoming Events:

Annual Christmas Dinner and Party, Derrick Golf and Winter Club, Tuesday Evening December 5th.

Full course Roast Turkey Dinner

Time: 5:30 Sparkling Wine reception and cash bar with great music by the Fabulous Two!

Plated Dinner will be served at 6:30

Team Leaders: Chuck Gerhart and Larry Dobson