



## **THE GYROLOG**

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON  
Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

### **President**

Bill Taylor  
780 430-0330

AUGUST 2010

### **1<sup>st</sup>Vice-President**

Ari Hoeksema  
780 421-7776

Those celebrating their birthdays in August are **Bruce Foy** on the 1st, **Val Pohl** and **Walter Yakimets** on the 4th, **Eric Spink** on the 6th, **Ken Bowes** and **Peter Fairbridge** on the 7th, **Peter Morrison** on the 13th, **Allan Douglas** on the 14th, **Bill Clarke** on the 22nd and **Bruce Houston** on the 29th.

### **Past President**

Leon Lubin  
780 454-9712

The August wedding anniversaries are **David McNaughton** and **Laura Travis**, 23 years on the 1st; **Eric Spink** and **Christina Gauk**, 9 years on the 18th; **Allan and Jean Warrack**, 48 years on the 18th; **Leon and Jo-Anne Lubin**, 44 years on the 23rd and **Andy and Blanche Friderichsen**, 54 years on the 28th.

### **Secretary**

Barry Walker  
780 475-0983

### **Treasurer**

Mike Matei  
780 930-1780

Your editor had a major senior's moment in the July Gyrolog and forgot to announce the following wedding anniversaries; **Jack** and **Joyce Brown**, 10 years on the 15th; **Len** and **Barbara Stevens**, 52 years on the 26th and **John** and **'Mim'-Bertsch Mann**, 10 years on the 28th.

### **Directors**

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

**Irene Watson**, mother of **Helen Ross (John Ross)** celebrated her **102nd birthday** on August 16th. Congratulations Irene!

### **Gyrolog Editor**

Fred Schulte  
780 434-092

The **Annual Gyro/Gyrette Golf Scramble and Barbeque** was held on August 3rd at the Legends Golf Course with 31 golfers and 40 enjoying BBQ steak and all the trimmings. **President Bill Taylor** introduced our newest member **Cliff French**.

All teams of golfers were awarded prizes starting with the most honest team and ending with the team with the most suspect score. **Ken Willan** and **Shirley Larson** won the longest drive prizes.

Raffle tickets were also sold and virtually everyone in attendance ended up with one or more prizes. We express our appreciation to those who donated prizes:

Walter and Kay Yakimets  
Mike and Sharon Matei  
Roger and Janet Russell  
Jack and Joyce Brown  
Barry and Valerie Walker  
Bill and Marie Taylor

Gary Campbell  
Fred and Paulette Schulte  
Ernie and Beth Siegel  
Marty and Shirley Larson  
Val and Linda Pohl

Thanks to **Sharon Matei** and **Marg Foy** for supplying critical liquid refreshments at hole #7.

A special thanks to **Valerie** and **Barry Walker** and **Janet** and **Roger Russell** for organizing another very enjoyable event.

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**President Bill Taylor** welcomed 29 Gyro's and two guests to our August 17th luncheon meeting held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club. **Jack Slobodan** led the group in the singing of *Cheerio* and **Jim Lochhead** presented the *Grace*.

**Warren Garbutt** introduced our guest speaker **Waqar Syed** and **Allan Warrack** introduced his guest **Bob Busch**.

**Mort Morter** reported on the health of the club and indicated that all is well.

**Marty Larson** reported that he and Shirley stopped in Winnipeg recently and had a good visit with **Al** and **Bette McClure**, former members of the Edmonton Gyro Club. They are both doing well and wished to be remembered to their Edmonton Gyro friends.

**Warren Garbutt** introduced our guest speaker, **Waqar Syed**, Senior Engineer with the City of Edmonton's Transportation Planning Branch. Mr. Syed is presently working on the West, South-East, Downtown Connection and Northwest **Light Rail Transit (LRT) projects**. Prior to his work in Edmonton, Waqar has worked with the regional authority overseeing public transportation in the Greater Vancouver Area.

In 1978, Edmonton became the first city in North America with a population under one million to open a LRT system. Calgary followed in 1980 with a similar system and Vancouver opened a heavy rail system in 1983.

The City of Edmonton's **Transportation Master Plan (TMP)** is the framework that responds to future transportation needs and it anticipates, describes and plans "The Way We Move". Shifting Edmonton's Transportation Modes is one of the City's highest priorities. The TMP supports this goal and strives to:

- Ensure transit sustainability and increase transit ridership
- Improve travel options to reduce barriers between different modes of transportation
- Increase traffic safety
- Manage traffic congestion to facilitate travel through and around the city

The current LRT system can best be described as a "**suburban**" system, the LRT Network Plan calls for a change in approach to an "**urban**" LRT system. LRT would continue to operate on dedicated right-of-way, with priority, so the trains do not mix with traffic or stop at intersections. The urban approach improves connections between the LRT and city life.

#### **An urban LRT system means:**

- Building smaller scale stations that are spaced closer together
- Providing better links to a greater number of destinations, and more direct transit, pedestrian and cyclist connections
- Maximizing openness of space to create a safe environment
- Reducing speeds in congested areas to support safe pedestrian-oriented communities
- Investing in landscaping, streetscaping and architectural features like street furniture to improve visual appeal

Edmonton's existing LRT uses high-floor technology. Most of the mechanical equipment is located at the bottom of the vehicle, requiring elevated passenger

doors and raised platforms/stations. As the City expands its LRT system, new lines such as the West and Southeast LRT will use low-floor technology. Most of the equipment on a low-floor LRT vehicle is located on the roof so passengers can board at street level. Low-floor LRT technology has been used in Europe and North America since the late 1980's and has evolved to become an industry standard for LRT systems worldwide.

In December 2009, Edmonton City Council approved the proposed West and Southeast Corridors for the LRT expansion. Now that the corridors have been approved, work has begun to determine how the LRT will "fit" into these corridors. Over the course of 2010 work will be undertaken to define the answers to key questions such as:

- Where will the LRT line be located within the corridors?
- Where will any bridges or underpasses be located?
- Where will stations be located? How will they be configured?
- How will vehicle access in and out of communities be impacted?
- What plans are needed to address pedestrian and cyclist impacts?

Open houses hosted by the City in September 2010 will present potential LRT alignments, station locations and an access plan for public review.

On June 22nd, 2010 the Government of Alberta announced \$2 billion for its Green Transit Incentives Program (Green TRIP), \$800 million of which will be dedicated to the Capital Region.

Following the public hearing on June 21st, City Council approved the surface downtown section of LRT( Downtown Connector). On July 7th, City Council approved the 113A Street Corridor as the Northwest LRT Route. Detailed engineering will be completed this fall for the Downtown, McEwen, Royal Alex., Kingsway Mall and NAIT line.

A typical LRT project consists of five stages: Strategy-Concept-Design-Build-Operate.

For more information log on to [www.edmonton.ca/transportation/ets/future-lrt-projects](http://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/ets/future-lrt-projects)

**Len Stevens** thanked our guest speaker for his presentation on a subject which is of great interest to our membership.

The free lunch draw was won by "**Dutch**" **Hoeksema**



**City of Edmonton South LRT Line, Health Sciences Station**

**The GYRO District VIII Convention** sponsored by the Sherwood Park Gyro Club was held August 19-22 and was attended by 150 Gyro's and Gyrettes from the Calgary, Castlegar, Cranbrook, Edmonton, Fraser Delta, Lethbridge, Nelson, Regina, Sherwood Park, St. Albert, Stampede City, Vancouver and Wallace clubs.

On Thursday evening a **Blackjack Casino** was held with dealers from the **St. Albert** and **Sherwood Park Clubs** working the tables and adding colour and humour for each player who received \$20,000 in play money. At the end of the casino, all play money was counted and each player received raffle tickets which were used to bid on a large number of small and large boxes wrapped in brown paper. As it

turned out, the Sherwood Park Club membership was able to clean out many garages and dispose of numerous "experienced" objects.

On Friday morning, a large contingent of golfers headed to the **Belvedere Golf Course** for a mixed tournament with everybody playing their own ball. At 10:00 am, another group took guided tours of the Strathcona County Museum and the Strathcona Wilderness Centre.

At 3:00 pm a large group of Gyro's/Gyrettes played in an outdoor **Bocce** tournament at Festival Place. At the same time, a smaller but dedicated group of **cribbage** players battled for the title of winner. The groups were then treated to some very entertaining music by **Mike Syvenky** on electric guitar and **Larry Begoray** on the accordion. This was followed by a barbeque dinner at 6:00 pm and an hour of excellent rock and roll music by **Mark Sterling** and **Mark Puffer**.

On Saturday morning, the **District VIII Business Meeting** was held at the Robin Hood Association School. The continuing declining membership will result in a potential larger District VIII budget deficit but the Executive is committed to limiting or eliminating any deficit.

The following awards were announced:

District Bulletin Award: Al Gordon, Sherwood Park

International Large Club Bulletin Award: Al Gordon, Sherwood Park

New Membership Award: Edmonton

Best Website: Stampede City

Man Mile Award: Lethbridge

**Sid Slade**, outgoing District Secretary-Treasurer has volunteered to become the **District Webmaster**.

The new Third International Vice-President of Gyro International is **Mike McNally** of Buffalo, New York.

**The Wallace, Idaho Club** announced that the 2011 District VIII convention will be held June 16-19. The Convention will coincide with the **70th Annual Lead Creek Derby** which will see teams of Gyro's/Gyrettes assisting in the following and moving of a large plastic ball down a 14 mile reach of Lead Creek from Mullan to Wallace. In addition, the Wallace Club has arranged for the purchase of air time, all day on Wednesday June 15th at a local radio station. There is also a strong rumour that the Bocce Tournament will see the introduction of a new larger ball with three or four holes. The famous Marching Band and Pub Crawl will again see conventioners attempt to visit and survive all 10 bars that are on the route.

**Book you rooms now!**

The District VIII Installation of Officers was held on Saturday evening and **Bernie Kropp**, stepped down as Governor for 2009-2010. **Don Boyle** from the Cranbrook Club was installed as the new District Governor for 2010-11. **Dale Woodroffe** from the Stampede City Gyro Club was installed as the Second Lt. Governor.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Gyro/Gyrette Corn Roast, Malmo Community League Hall, 11525-48 Ave. Tuesday Evening September 7th.**

**Time: Bocce 4:00 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm**

**Corn, Chicken, Salad, and Dessert, \$15 per person**

**Beer and Wine \$2, Soft Drinks \$1**

**There is still room for more Gyro's and Gyrettes as well as guests, please contact Roger Russell 780-434-4333 or Barry Walker 780-475-0983**

**Gyrette Meeting, Royal Mayfair Club, Tuesday Evening, September 14th.**

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

**Cost: \$25**

**Speaker: Karmen Masson from SUIT YOURSELF.** Suit Yourself is a charitable organization which collects and distributes quality clothing and accessories free of charge to low-income women seeking employment or making a transition in the workplace. In lieu of a gift to the speaker, the Gyrettes are asked to bring items which can be used by Suit Yourself. Some suggestions are: clean accessories such as handbags, shoes (closed toe low heeled), scarves, belts, jewellery and new trouser socks and panty hose. Blouses, shells and camisoles are also useful; all sizes are welcome, especially extra small or plus sizes.

**Contact: Petra Hagemann 780-435-2833**

**Regular Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, September 21st.**

**Speaker: Mayor Stephen Mandel**

**This a mixed Gyro/Gyrette event; please bring guests as well!**

**Contacts: Len Stevens and Chuck Gerhart**

**2010 Gyro Day at the Races, Northlands Spectrum, 4th Floor Chairman's Suite, Sunday, September 26th.**

**Time:** 12:00 Noon- Doors Open, 12:00 noon, Lunch Buffet, 1:00 pm Post Time

**Cost:** \$35 per person, Gyro's/Gyrettes or guests

**Buffet Menu:** Roast Striploin, Balsamic Chicken, vegetable medley, salads, desserts, coffee and tea. A cash bar will be available.

**Payment** by cash or cheque payable to the Gyro Club of Edmonton.

**Contacts:** Val Pohl and John Boyd.

**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

**Contact:** Mike Matei

**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**