



April 15, 2003

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President Victor presided over his last meeting as President (we assume he will be back occasionally as Past President) with a hungry and enthusiastic 34 Gyros present. **John Ross** led the group in Cheerio and **Bill Graham** asked the blessing.

Four members had guests to introduce, **John Ross** introduced Stephen Marsh, **Peter Carter** welcomed our guest speaker John Short, **Bruce Foy's** guest was his brother Jim, and **Marty Larson** brought David McNaughton out for lunch.

On April 5th, **Larry Wang** celebrated a birthday, as did **Fred Schulte** on the 13th. Still to come are celebrants **Mort Morter** and **Gord Rennie** on the 24th, **Harry Nash** on the 27th, and **Peter Butler** on the 30th.

The final hockey game of the year was on April 5th with the Calgary Flames in town. They were leading 2:0 after twenty minutes and Doug Ingersol and Ian Rennie won \$10. It was even uglier after two with the Flames ahead 4:0 resulting in joyous Gyros **Win Kirkwood** and **Jack Ellis** walking away with \$15. The final score wasn't much better and at 4:1 the \$25 winners were Gary Duchak, Amber Petersen, and Joyel Hibber.

Marty Larson, on behalf of the hockey pool committee, thanked all for their sales help during the year, and reported that sales were up over the previous season. As a result, it was decided to hold a draw for non-winners, in order to encourage as many purchasers as possible to buy again next year. The following lucky ticket-holders will receive \$20 each:

Marlene Burnett, Trish Baird, Alex Hillyard, **Bernie Kropp**, **Georgina Plunkett**, Nicole McClure, Lauren Warrack, Perry Majeau, **Wendy Agnew**, Marcia Larson.

Peter Carter introduced the guest speaker, John Short, who has had 50 years in journalism always in the print media and in recent years in radio. He questioned the

term 'City of Champions' as a result of the wins of the Oilers and Eskimos etc. However, Edmonton is the City of Champions as a result of the 'can do' attitude as exhibited with the response to the Commonwealth Games, the World Figure Skating Championships, the World Track and Field Championships etc. he argues that "nobody does it better". Furthermore, no city contributes more to charity per capita than Edmonton. It is those factors that make Edmonton the best city to live in.

At the annual election night meeting at Kelly's Saloon, April 1st, **Barry Walker** and **Marty Larson** advised that the club has been asked to become involved in the 2004 Prostate Cancer Charity Golf Tournament. This tournament was held successfully for several years at The Links golf club, raising substantial sums for Prostate Cancer Awareness.

The committee at that time, mainly survivors of prostate cancer, was forced to cancel the 2002 event because of illness in the families of several members. **Barry** and **Marty** spoke of the opportunity for Gyro to heighten club awareness in the Edmonton area by participating in this event. Gyro clubs in several areas across Canada have sponsored similar tournaments, and, not only have they raised funds for worthy causes, they have actually had participants join Gyro.

There would be no financial commitment for the club, we would simply add our name to the event, provide 7 or 8 members to take over from the original board members, assist with finding sponsors where possible, and provide volunteers during the day of the tournament. When asked for an indication of club support for this venture, a majority of members voted in favour, and after the meeting, quite a number of members indicated they would be interested in becoming active board members. For any who are interested, please contact **Barry Walker** or **Marty Larson**.

This didn't come from **Peter Carter**, but it could have. Air Canada and WestJet decided to engage in a dragon boat race. Both teams practiced hard and long to reach their peak performance. On the big day they felt ready. WestJet won by a mile. Afterward, the Air Canada team was discouraged by the loss. Morale sagged. Corporate management decided that the reason for the crushing defeat had to be found, so a consulting firm was hired to investigate the problem and recommend corrective action.

The consultant's finding: The WestJet team had eight people rowing and one person steering; the Air Canada team had one person rowing and eight people steering. After a year of study and millions spent analyzing the problem, the consulting firm concluded that too many people were steering and not enough were rowing on the Air Canada team.

So as race day neared the following year, the Air Canada team's management structure was completely reorganized. The new structure: Four steering managers, three area steering managers and a new performance review system for the person rowing the boat to provide work incentive. That year WestJet won by two miles.

Humiliated, Air Canada laid off the rower for poor performance and gave the managers a bonus for discovering the problem.

Our outgoing **President Victor** won the free lunch.

UP COMING EVENTS:

April 25 is the date for the Gyro Bridge Club windup at the Highlands Golf and Country Club (6603 Aida Blvd). Cocktails at 6:00, Dinner at 6:30 followed by bridge and prizes. There will be a no host bar. If you have any special menu requirements contact **Marion Morstad** at 417-0571. Cost will be approximately \$30 per person. Cancellations and getting the scores and money forwarded to **Marion Morstad** must be completed by April 21st.

The May 6 meeting is cancelled because of the May 10th Installation of our new executive. It will be a mixed function in the evening at the Edmonton Country Club with cocktails at 6:30 and dinner at 7:00PM. **Walter Yakimets** and **Bruce Foy** organizing. The cost is \$40 per person for the dinner, \$48 if you wish to have cocktails and wine. Get your cheques in to **Walter** as soon as possible.

May 20 will be the first meeting under the leadership of our new President, **Roy Bennett**.

The annual mixed golf tournament is moving from Westridge to the Legends Golf Course on Tuesday July 8, 2003. The cost will be \$40 per person for 9 holes of golf and a great dinner. **Barry Walker** is doing the planning and a wild guess is that he will be looking for prizes.

The International Convention in Salt Lake City Utah occurs July 24 – 27, 2003.

The District VIII Convention, which will see **District Governor Gerry Glassford** end his term, will be held in Wallace, Idaho between July 31 and August 3, 2003.

The Quad Club Golf Tournament is scheduled for September 5, 2003 and it will once again be at the Legends. Details will follow.

The St. Albert Club has already booked the Faculty Club for Founders Night on October 22, 2003.

The Christmas Party for next year is booked for December 2, 2003.

Same Old Bull

Allan

