



# THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

January 6, 1998

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## Gyrolog

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Our first meeting of the new year got off to a rousing start with **Roger** (watch for this name again) **Russell** leading us in Cheerio. I don't know if this is the harbinger of a poor, young or struggling year. Here is hoping that it is 'young' because at least we can recover from that circumstance. Then **President Gerry** asked the blessing and we were on our way to a good Gyro 1998!

**Tony Sheppard** then introduced his quest, Jim Taylor, who has recently joined his company, and who is reportedly performing yeoman service. **John Ross** brought in a newspaper clipping about a jewelry buying bonanza. A jewelry store in Edmonton said that anyone who made a purchase between November 15 and boxing day would receive a full refund if it snowed more than 3 inches on New Year's Day. It did! And there were many happy customers. The bet was insured by our own **Tony Sheppard**, who arranged a policy with Lloyd's of London. Others who made less prudent bets did not fair as well as those insured by Sheppard.

**President Gerry** announced that the **District VIII Interim Convention** will be held at Fairmont from March 20 to 22, 1998. This is a great event for fun and a mountain holiday so book soon. There is a limited number of reserved rooms so we need to register early at the hotel. Call them toll free at 1-800-663-4947.

The fun bowling event will occur on Saturday January 17<sup>th</sup> at the Edmonton Bowling Centre on Parsons Rd. (That is the south extension of 99<sup>th</sup> St. south of 34<sup>th</sup> avenue. It is across from the Golf Dome.) Please be there well before 7:00p.m. when the bowling activities begin. This is a **fun**, as opposed to a bowling, event, so please come out. The cost for bowling, food, and prizes is \$16.00 per person. There is no better deal available on January 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Birthdays:** There are two birthdays this time, the twin John's, **John Ross** and **John Stroppa**, many happy returns friends.

Due to the Olympics, our hockey schedule must be revised. **Dave Duchak** informed us that changes will be made so that there will be some Canadian versus other teams that will govern the winners. So don't count on Hockey Night in Canada for those games and wait for news about the substitutes.

Did you hear that the Alberta Government has decided to be proactive about getting information out under the Freedom of Information Act. They have hired a new information officer to deal with all your requests for information. Her name is Helen Hunt. So now if you want any information from the Alberta Government, the official word is that you can go to Helen Hunt for it.

**President Gerry** reported that **Rev. Bill Graham** is not feeling well and was not out to the meeting. He hopes to be out to the next meeting. Also, **Tommy Douglas** is under the weather and is in the Royal Alex. It was also reported that **Keith Bradley** has returned home with a pacemaker and a defibrillator and we all hope that this will work well for him. **Marty Larson** informed us that Ron Nugent of the Calgary Club passed away suddenly during a regular exercise routine. Ron was at our convention last year and at Nelson this year. He was a lot of fun and had a good sense of humour. He will be missed.

**Hockey Pool Results: Game 4:** December 6, 1997 New York at Montreal. Period One Louis Morin and Don Bevan. Period Two Courtney Jackson and Beverly Russell. Period Three Natalie Danny and Sharon Shaw. **Game 5.** New Jersey at Toronto December 13, 1997. First Period Kirk Vander Ploeg and Darren Agnew. Second Period John Dingwell and Carla Walker. Third Period John Dingwall and Carla Walker. **Game 6.** Ottawa at Montreal December 20, 1997. First Period Wayne Kauffman and **Betty Rawlinson**. Second Period Donna Vansen and **Jean Morter**. Third Period Doreen Farrants and Cara Mazzuea. **Game 7.** December 27, 1997 Detroit at Toronto First Period Breanne Jackson and Zoe Woollard Second Period Jinnie Rasko and **Janet Russell** Third Period Courtney Jackson and Beverly Russell. **Game 8.** Toronto at New Jersey January 3, 1998. First Period Daniel Larson and Archie Clark. Second Period Sharon Lynne-Matei and Brenda Lowey Third Period Breame Jackson and Joe Woollard. **Game 9** January 10, 1998 First Period Muscie Hurley and Mike Lippe Second Period Gord Bolt and Ken Weisgerber Third Period **Pat Anderson** and **Art Meidinger**.

From the stupidest things ever said department is the response to the Chinese host who raised a glass and said to the American Diplomat "up your bottoms" which was "up yours too". Or how about the games show contestant who, when asked to name a song with 'moon' in the title replied "Blue Suede Shoes".

**Victor Jagoldas** introduced our guest speaker, William Bincoletto who is a wine and spirit consultant and a free lance wine writer. He talked about wine, the second oldest man made alcohol product (the oldest is beer). Wine has been made for about 7,000 years but in the last few years the number of producers has grown rapidly. 25 years ago the wine producers were France, Italy and Germany. Today almost all countries are wine producers. The three aspects that contribute to the quality of a wine are soil, climate and the winemaker.

The soil determines the variety of grapes to be used, the weather can affect the quality for a given year, and the reputation of the winemaker all affect the vintage. Wines are living organisms and they have a growing stage in which they are left to mature, and a drinking window when they are at their peak. After the drinking window they decline in quality. The length of the growing stage and the duration of the drinking window vary according to the wine in question. Technology is helping with wine making and Canadian and other wines are getting much better as a result.

William was entertaining, informative and helpful. When asked for the names of wineries to tour on the way to or from the District VIII Convention in Penticton this summer, he volunteered to contact wineries for us. So if there are some Gyros who want to do a wine tour there will be expert assistance available.

Did you ever wonder how long a big spender like **Roger Russell** is going to keep EARNER on his license plate?

**Upcoming Events:**

**January 17<sup>th</sup>**, the fun bowling referred to above.

**January 20<sup>th</sup>**, our next luncheon meeting. The guest speaker, arranged by **Peter Carter**, will be Dennis Henke from The Edmonton Trappers.

On **February 12<sup>th</sup>** we will celebrate Valentine's at the Mayfield Inn Dinner Theatre. There is a comedy entitled 'Moon over Buffalo'. Assuming we have 50 people, the cost will be \$20 per person (\$27 for guests) for a huge buffet dinner and the play. The buffet opens at 6:00 p.m. and the play starts at 8:00 p.m.

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>**, has been booked for our annual Bocci tournament and dinner. Book the date now. The details of costs and time will follow. Contact Gord Robertson at 486-1240.

On Saturday **March 14<sup>th</sup>** **Mike Matei** is planning for a mixed curling funspiel. We need at least 32 curlers to make this a success so please indicate your interest.

**March 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>** is the District VIII Interim in Fairmont. See above for details.

**The Draw.** Our Guest, William Bincoletto cut the cards for a free lunch. The first name drawn was **Roger Russell**. We were all pleased to see that because Roger hasn't won since December 3, 1997 (which, incidentally, was our last luncheon meeting).