

THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON
EDMONTON - ALBERTA

July 5, 1996

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In a few short days the Edmonton Gyro Club will welcome to our Club, our City, our Province and to the Gyro philosophy hundreds of Gyros and Gyrettes from around North America. This will be the last Gyrolog before the International Convention and, consequently, it is our plan to incorporate into it more information on the Convention than would otherwise occur.

As a lead up to the Convention, our Tuesday meeting on July 2nd became a combined Gyro/Gyrette meeting and it was held in Reed's Bazaar in historic Fort Edmonton. **Gerry Glassford**, (in a pinch-hitting role for **President Allan**) welcomed 62 Gyros and Gyrettes to the Fort. **Peter Carter** led us in a hearty Cheerio and **Rev Bill Graham** said the Grace for us. On his arrival **President Allan** thanked **Gerry** for filling in for him and, in explaining his late arrival, told us that his car was like his golf clubs - "as soon as they were paid for, they refused to operate."

The Elizabethan Caterers (who will look after our Friday night meal at the Convention) presented a delicious soup, sandwiches and desserts for everyone. Birthday wishes went out to **Ron Ewoniak** for his special day on July 17th.

We were witness to a particularly wonderful moment during our meeting when **Bernice Pedden**, as Gyrette president, presented the Convention Co-Chairs, **David** and **Marty**, with a cheque for a very generous amount from the Edmonton and Sherwood Park Gyrettes. **David** led the assembly in warmly thanking the Gyrettes for the superb job that they have done and are continuing to do to make this Gyro convention the best ever. **Marty** added thanks for the Gyrette efforts and said that he felt that this will likely be the classiest convention ever due to the support and efforts of everyone and particularly the Gyrettes. Thank you all very much.

Marty (the money man) also pointed out that \$5.00 of our registration fee goes to fund the hospitality activities and we should get our money's worth by attending those events on Tuesday and Wednesday 5 to 7 PM, our own

event on Thursday 3 to 5 PM and, for First Timers to International Conventions, a get-together from 5:45 to 6:15 PM Thursday. The Hospitality Suite is open to our members every night from 10pm - midnight from Tuesday to Saturday. **Marty** also stressed the importance (and many benefits) of our having representation at the District Officer level. He ventured that we have at least half a dozen suitable candidates (with supportive Gyrettes) who would admirably fill these roles. It would be great to have

one of our Gyros put their name forward for consideration as a potential District officer.

Gerry Glassford introduced our guest speaker, **Peter Hawker**, a former Senior Historical Interpreter for the City of Edmonton and Honorary Chief Factor of Fort Edmonton. **Peter** told us of the importance of the fur trade to the development of our city and explained the rivalry between the North West Company and the Hudson Bay Company in the early days. One consequence of this competition for furs was that Fort Edmonton was moved about five times before being finally located on a site near our current Legislative Assembly (the three keys to business success even in those days was *location, location, location*). He also explained to us why Edmonton is located where it is - this location is about the maximum distance from Cumberland House (in Manitoba) that the voyageurs could manage on a round trip between break up and freeze up on the river. **Peter** also described the process of reconstructing the Fort at its present site. As much as possible, traditional building techniques were applied but as funds diminished, the planners/builders had to combine newer technologies with the use of the adze, broadaxe, and wood chisel. His personal insights and anecdotes helped bring new life and meaning to this part of our history. **Dick Ogilvie** thanked **Peter** for sharing his perspectives on our history and this "living" museum we call Fort Edmonton. **Peter** and **Alisa Wheeler** from the current Fort staff stayed on to take Gyros and Gyrettes on a tour of Fort Edmonton. A special thanks is extended to each of these wonderful people. **Ruby Mills** won the draw for a certificate for the Convention and **Allan Warrack** won the three bottles of wine presented by **Barry Walker**.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is the week we have been planning for since the early 1990's! Thanks to the commitment of our Gyros and Gyrettes, it looks like the Convention will be a major success. We still have some work to do, but it should be fun doing it. Your efforts are greatly appreciated and the Edmonton Club will have established an enviable reputation as a result of them.

To give us an opportunity to celebrate, we have booked the **Edmonton Queen** for the **dinner and dance cruise on Tuesday, July 23**. We will celebrate our **Convention success** and our **75th Anniversary**. The dinner is catered by the Hilton and is reportedly excellent. There is also a live band and a cruise on the river of one hour. Everyone is invited and the Club is paying the costs of the cruise and dinner (cash bar for drinks). Meet at **Rafter's Landing** at 9734 - 98th Ave. on **July 23**. The evening runs from **6:30 - 10:30 pm**. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Convention, so let us know that you are coming!

NOTE: Due to the Convention and the cruise, there will be **no noon meeting on July 16**.

COMING EVENTS

- July 11 - 14 **Edmonton International and District VIII Gyro Convention at the Mayfield Inn**
- July 16 Regular Tuesday Meeting **CANCELLED**
- July 23 *CONVENTION WINDUP PARTY AND 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION - ABOARD THE PADDLEWHEELER, EDMONTON QUEEN. Dinner and Dance 6:30-10:30 pm. Location: Rafter's Landing 9734-90th Ave.*
- August 6 No noon Gyro Meeting
- August 8 *Gyro/Gyrette Golf Scramble at Westridge and BBQ at Bryce Van Dusen's. Assemble at 1:00 PM. Contact person - Owen Cornish (phone/fax 469-1514)*
- August 26 *Take Me Out To The Ball Game - Barry Walker has arranged for our Club to attend an Edmonton Trappers game on Monday evening Aug 26. First pitch 7:05 PM. Cost - \$6.00 per person (including a pass to the private lounge. Barry would appreciate a large and early response in order to finalize plans. Contact person - Barry Walker (phone 428-8530).*

CONVENTION UPDATE

As of the evening of July 4th we had 541 Gyros and Gyrettes registered for our Convention and new registrations were still coming in to our Convention office. We still anticipate a final count of about 550 participants - a wonderful response.

Allan Warrack reports that the Great Gold Rush '96 Golf Tournament now has 81 paid participants and 3 firm commitments. He and **Mike** can handle 8 more golfers for a total of 92 - the maximum due to the limited number of golf carts. Players should make themselves aware of the directions to the Links Golf course. The tee off schedule is complete and will be available at the Mayfield Inn.

Route to LINKS Golf Course at Spruce Grove:

Leave Mayfield Inn on Mayfield Road

*south 1.5 Km (.93 miles) to Hwy # 16 West

*west 20.0 km (12.5 miles) to Spruce Grove

*north 2.0 km (1.24 miles) on Calahoo Road

*east 0.5 km (0.31 miles) on Grove Drive

*Golf course is on your left

Several have asked about the schedule of events. A full schedule will be provided to every registrant shortly but we felt that an abbreviated schedule might be of some value to our Club members. Briefly our Convention looks like this unless otherwise noted the event will be in the Mayfield Inn):

Wednesday	July 10	3-5 pm	Registration Desk open
Thursday	July 11	9am-6pm	Registration Desk and Gyrette Information and Sales Desk
		6pm	No Host Reception
		7pm	Buffet Supper
		8:15pm	Welcome and Entertainment
		10-10:30pm	Registration Desk
Friday	July 12	9am	Mixed District VIII Golf - Links Golf Course
		9am-3pm	Registration Desk/Gyrette Information and Sales Desk
		9am	City Tour (4 hours)
		10am	Muttart Conservatory Tour (2 hours)
		3:15-9:30 pm	Klondike Barbecue at Fort Edmonton
Saturday	July 13	9am-11am	Registration Desk/Gyrette Information and Sales Desk
		11:30am	No Host Reception & Signing Banner
		12 noon	Lunch with Friends/Entertainment
		2:30-4:30pm	Bocci Tournament
		6pm	No host reception
		7pm	President's Ball
Sunday	July 14	8-10am	Send-off Buffet Breakfast

Remember, *your NAME TAG is your "ticket" to every event.* Please wear it at all times and encourage our guests to do the same. *Tickets will be provided and must be used to gain admission to Fort Edmonton and to obtain your plate and your meal at the Festival tent in Fort Edmonton Park.* We have all worked hard together in building to this point, now let's take the time to truly enjoy the Convention and to share this time of friendship with our Gyro and Gyrette friends from around North America.



A
FRATERNITY
OF
FRIENDSHIP

