



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

**President-David Winfield, Past President-Bruce Swanson,
1st Vice-President- Chuck Gerhart, 2nd Vice-President-Dunc Mills
Secretary-Barry Walker, Treasurer-Gary Campbell,
Directors- Bob Bahniuk, Ron Trant, Fred Schulte, Tony Mazzuca
Database Administrator-John Ross, Gyrolog Editor-Fred Schulte
Club Website: www.edmontongyroclub.com**

MAY 2019

Those celebrating their birthdays are **Len Evenson, 80 years** on the 13th, **David Burnett, 80 years** on the 18th, **Allan Warrack** on the 24th and **David Winfield** on the 25th. Those celebrating their wedding anniversaries are **Sheldon and Judy Weatherby**, 48 years on the 15th; **Fred and Paulette Schulte**, 51 years on the 18th; **Jack and Steffany Bowen**, 25 years on the 25th; **Chuck and Myrna Gerhart**, 54 years on the 22nd, **Peter and Katherine Morrison**, 39 years on the 30th and **Bob and June Kerrison, 60 years** on the 30th.

SECOND POSTING

Daryl Dyck has applied for membership in our club. Daryl and his wife **Anita** reside at **4706-58 Street, Lacombe, AB. T4L 1M6**. His phone number is 403-877-3413 and email address. daryldyck@outlook.com Daryl is a 3rd Class Power Engineer with West Fraser and **David Winfield** and **John Ross** propose him.

It is with regret that we acknowledge the resignation of **Andreas (Andy) Friderichsen, a 34-year member of the Edmonton Club** due to health reasons.

Andy was born in Copenhagen, Denmark and was one of two sons and two daughters in the Friderichsen family. Andy's mother died a few days short of 100 years and his grandmother also lived to be 100.

Andy attended a boy's school, followed by a gymnastic school and then worked on farms during the Second World War, reaching the managerial level. Andy also spent a year in England where he was a butler to a wealthy family living in a castle. In 1950, he decided to try life in Canada and worked in a variety of jobs including six years with the C.N.R. Andy met **Blanche Irvine** in May 1956 at the Rainbow Ball Room. They eloped, were married in August and travelled by ship from New York City to Copenhagen. This was the first of 50 cruises that Blanche and Andy enjoyed with lots of opportunities for more dancing!

Andy accepted an offer to be farm manager in Kenya on a farm owned by an Italian corporation. The Mau-Mau Rebellion ended that adventure. The rebellion was a military conflict that took place in Kenya (then called British East Africa), between 1952 and 1960. It involved a Kikuyu-dominated anti-colonial group called Mau-Mau and elements of the British Army, auxiliaries and anti-Mau-Mau Kikuyu. The conflict set the stage for Kenyan independence in 1963.

Back in Edmonton, Andy attended Alberta College and the University of Alberta, Faculty of Agriculture. He then spent six years as a Funeral Director at Hainstocks.

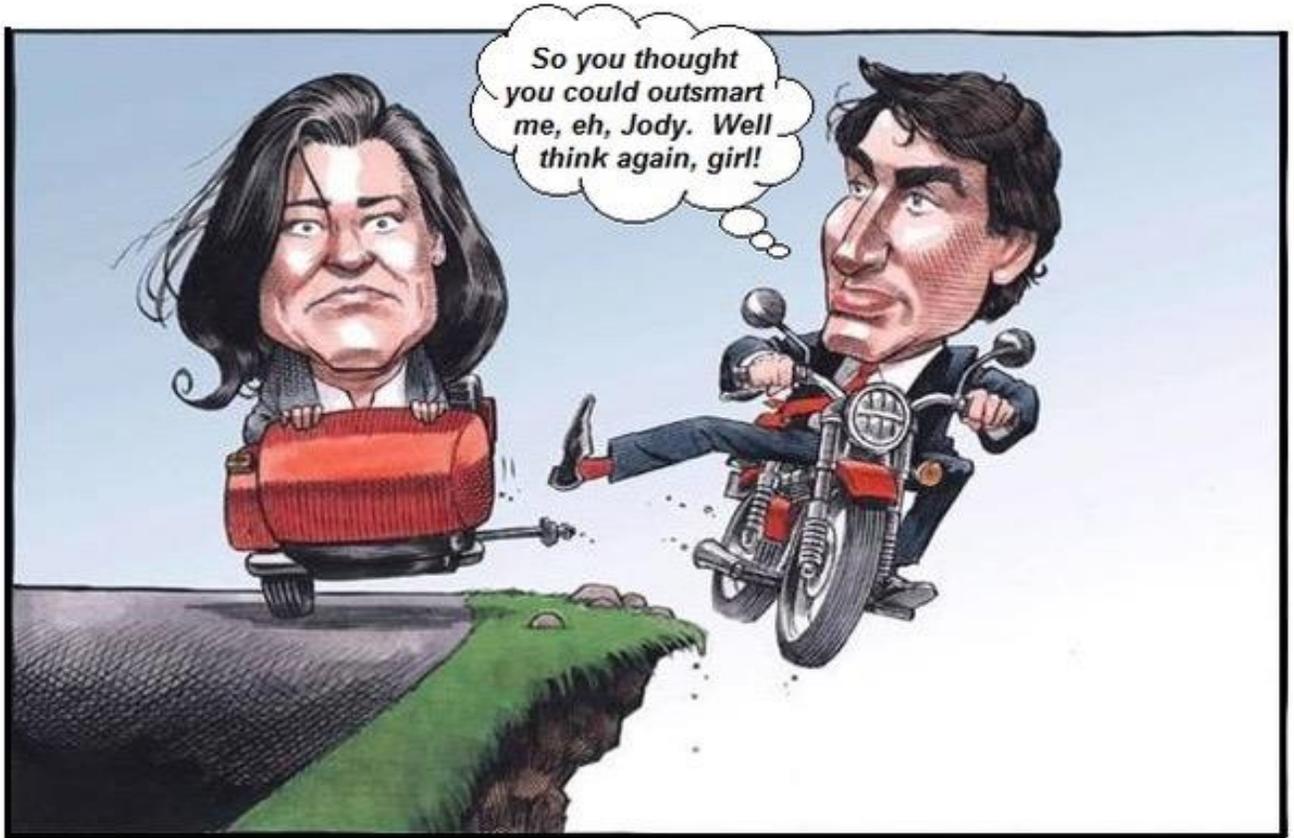
Andy spent the last 21 years of his working career at McBain's Camera as Manager of Audio-Visual Services. Blanche spent her last 21 years with Alberta Education in Library Science. They both retired within a week of each other in 1987.

Thanks to Roger Russell, Andy joined Gyro in 1984. Andy's hobbies included woodworking, silver-smithing and reading.

Blanche Friderichsen died in March 2016 at the age of 90 after their 59th wedding anniversary.

Andy celebrated his 98th Birthday on May 13th.







Past President Bruce Swanson welcomed 36 Gyros and three guests to the May 7th luncheon meeting held at the Faculty Club. **2nd Vice-President Dunc Mills** led the singing of *Cheerio* and **Heinrich Grosskopf** presented the Grace. **Val Pohl** introduced his guest **Al Buchanan**.

Ron Trant introduced our guest speaker, **Marc Quinn** from the **Fort Edmonton Foundation**.

Marc advised that the **Fort Edmonton Park Expansion Plan** has a capital budget of 165 million. **The official groundbreaking ceremony was held on October 18, 2018.** The federal government has provided a grant of \$48 million; the province of Alberta has given \$33.5 million and the City of Edmonton has provided the largest portion of funding at \$73 million. The remaining \$10 million will be sought from the private sector and the general public.

The 50th Anniversary of Fort Edmonton Park was celebrated on May 25th, 2019.

Fort Edmonton Park is embarking on upon an ambitious plan to expand its offerings to bring a world class historical park offering a memorable guest experience. Linking yesterday to today and tomorrow, including the following four projects:

- 1. Further expansion of the very popular, highly interactive, 1920's Midway Attractions.**
- 2. Launching Canada's largest, most interactive Indigenous People's Experience.**
- 3. Bringing 1920 Street alive with the commercial hustle and bustle of early Edmonton with an expansion of the Hotel Selkirk: The Windsor and Albion Block.**
- 4. Reclaiming the train station as an interpretative space by creating a new Front Entry & Guest Services Area.**

Half of the total capital expansion budget will be used to completely upgrade all the underground utilities! As a result, general public access will be closed until 2021. Corporate events and weddings will still be accommodated at the Hotel Selkirk and the Blatchford Hanger.

The **1920's Midway Expansion** is underway and will include a new Ferris Wheel, Bumper car Ride, Event Tent and Shooting Gallery.

The development of the **Indigenous People's Experience** has started with drainage and preparation of the site. Facilities will include a Treaty Hall, Metis Cabin, Performance Arbor, Cooking Arbor, Education Centre and Classrooms.

The **Hotel Selkirk, Windsor and Albion Block Project** will include an additional 250- seat ballroom and multi-purpose event and meeting space, and 22 new hotel rooms. The **Rotary Clubs of Edmonton** are providing financial support for these projects.

The new **Front Entry Guest Services Area** will include a Train Station repurposed as an interpretative centre telling the story of the railway coming to Edmonton.

The future focus will be on **financial sustainability** including a likely reduction of entrance fees with add-on fees for specific attractions.

A lively question and answer period followed the presentation.

Ron Trant thanked Marc for an entertaining and informative talk.

The Free Lunch winner was **Mike Matei**.

It is with regret that we acknowledge the resignation of **Peter Morrison** on April 8th. Peter was sponsored by **Marty Larson** in 2006. We wish Peter and Katherine all the best in their retirement on Vancouver Island.

President David Winfield welcomed 37 Gyros and four guests to the May 21st luncheon meeting held at the Faculty Club. **John Mann** led the singing of Cheerio and **Jim Lochhead** presented the Grace.

Mike Matei introduced his guests, **Tage Cawley** and **Wyatt Lynds**.

Our guest speaker **S. Sgt. Tom Bechthold** and his son **Kieran** were also introduced.

Heinrich Grosskopf introduced our guest speaker, **Staff Sergeant Tom Bechthold, Edmonton Police Service**. He is a 23½ year veteran, starting with six years on patrol, seven on the Canine Unit, Five and half as an Airborne Tactical Flight Officer, returning to the Canine Unit as a Sergeant and presently a Staff Sergeant responsible for the Canine Unit and Flight Operations.

S. Sgt Bechtold advised that the Canine Unit has 14 dogs who are trained to detect explosives, drugs and human remains. The Unit provides 24/7 coverage and deals with the worst of the worst situations such as break-in's and assaults at night. Ninety percent of the dog's work is tracking. These tracking dogs lead a good life and love tracking and apprehension. They can be male or female and are chosen for their pain tolerance, independence and aggressiveness. The dogs are acquired at age 14 weeks and raised for a year to socialize them. They are then trained for 18 months to two years to track in the rural areas and then urban. Specialized training in this two-year period includes 8-12 weeks in explosive training and 12 to 14 weeks in human remains.

Most of the dogs are sourced from Alabama and some from Europe. A puppy can cost \$2500 and an adult \$19,000. Dogs are used as a last resort to stop a suspect from fleeing or to convince a hiding suspect to surrender. The dogs are trained to bite a suspect once and hold tight until the handler gains control. The dogs are now provided with a light flak jacket and a camera to protect them from assault and provide good intelligence information. The dogs will automatically attack a suspect if the officer is hit or attacked. A small number of supporting police officers have been attacked by the dogs if they have made a sudden move of their body or arms. These officers proudly wear a special t-shirt that states: "I have been bit by the best".

The Canine Unit in 2018 provided 3300 deployments, including 457 arrests using dogs, 500 for social control and 100 involving occupied vehicles. Dogs are no longer trained to detect marijuana since it's legalization in 2018.

S. Sergeant Bechthold trained and introduced the first human remains detection dog, a Belgian Malinois named **Hunter in 2018**. As an added treat, we were introduced to **Zeus**, a young Belgian Malinois puppy who is now being trained by Bechthold. Zeus will grow to 80 pounds at maturity.

Heinrich Grosskopf thanked our speaker for an informative and humorous presentation.

David Burnett won the Free Lunch draw.

Thanks to **Bob Kerrison** and **Heinrich Grosskopf** for organizing this event.



Zeus, a young Belgian Malinois puppy



Hunter

GYROS DIG IT!

One hundred and sixteen Gyros and ladies from nine clubs met in Drumheller, Alberta May 23-26, 2019 for our annual District VIII Convention.

Drumheller is not only famous for Dinosaurs but has an equally important history of coal mining. The first load of coal shipped out of the valley was from a Newcastle mine in 1911. The Drumheller coal rush really heated up after **Samuel Drumheller** bought land in the valley from Thomas Greentree and sold it to the Canadian National Railway to develop a townsite. A famous coin toss was made by Drumheller and Greentree to decide who would name the town. The coin fell in favour of Samuel Drumheller. Between 1911 and 1979, 139 mines were registered in the valley and over 56 million tons of coal was shipped across Canada. **The Atlas Coal Mine** was the last one to close in 1979 signaling the end of the coal mining era in the valley. The structure and the coal mining history are preserved at the original Atlas Coal Mine site at **East Coulee**.

On Friday morning, May 24th, the **18-hole golf tournament** was played at **Dinosaur Trail Golf Club** overlooking Horseshoe Canyon. The back nine is especially difficult because any stray balls end up in the bottom of the canyon. **Mike Wagg**, Nelson won the Men's Low Gross, **Betty Fenton**, Calgary, Ladies Low Gross, **Sid Slade**, Sherwood Park, Men's Low Net and **Sharon Slade**, Ladies Low Net.

The **Annual Bocce Tourney** was played on the grounds of the **Last Chance Saloon** in the Hamlet of Wayne on Friday afternoon. The A and B event winners played out the final game and the winning team players were **Alan Pentney, Mina Williamson, Larry Fenton** and **Jim Malott**.



**"A" Event and Tourney Winners
Alan Pentney, Mina Williamson, Larry Fenton, Jim Malott**



"B" Event Winners Linda Pohl, Andrea Braun, Dale Woodroffe, Mike Wagg

The Bocce Tourney was followed by a **Western Dinner** at the **Last Chance Saloon**. The saloon is part of the **Rosedeer Hotel** built in 1913 shortly after coal mining commenced in the valley. By 1932, the area, including Wayne was booming, holding a population of 10,000. The hotel is the only structure remaining of the mining days. Wayne's population is now 31.



Last Chance Saloon

The **District VIII Business Meeting** held Saturday morning dealt with District and Club reports, presentation of Financial Statements, New Business, the 2019-20 Budget, Nominations and Awards.

The total members in Gyro in the USA and Canada are 2148 down 60% in the last 50 years. The 2019-20 District budget was approved based on 304 members.

Sid Slade of the Sherwood Park Club agreed to stand as Lt. Governor.

The winner of the Best Bulletin Award is **Scott Brisbin**, Parks Points, Sherwood Park.

The Man mile Award was won by **Edmonton** and the Membership Award by **Cranbrook**.

The **2020 District Convention** will be hosted by the **Stampede City Club** in **Medicine Hat, May 28-31**.

Our Mixed Luncheon Meeting on Saturday included a presentation by **Donald M. Henderson, Curator, Royal Tyrrell Museum**. Instead of giving us a lot of technical and scientific information about dinosaurs, he instead compared all the scary creatures shown in movies with the real dinosaurs found around the world. The creatures shown in the King Kong, Godzilla and Jurassic World movies are almost always depicted in monochromatic grey colours. In the real-life dinosaur world, most of the dinosaurs and reptiles were colourful. The movie creatures also tend to be far too large given the paleontology evidence and the movie creatures also move much more quickly than would be possible based on the skeletal evidence found in excavated dinosaur species.

This presentation likely fueled interest in many Gyros to check out the Royal Tyrrell Museum dinosaur artifacts!



Carol Dobson Edmonton Club.

One of the events that attracted a lot of interest was the **DINO DERBY**. Drumheller has placed about 30 “**Cementosaur**” DinoArts Dinosaur sculptures throughout town. Those who photographed themselves with at least five of the creatures were invited to email them to **John Ross**. The winning “Cementosaur Selfie” was picked through a best poker hand draw. **Katy Pattison** of the Stampede City Club was the winner and received a dinosaur headlamp.

The Saturday evening **Installation of District VIII Officers** was a gala event with a first-class dinner.

Gyro International 2nd Vice-President, Alan Pentney installed the new Executive for 2019-20.

District Governor-Derm Jackman, Castlegar

Lt. Governor-Sid Slade, Sherwood Park

Secretary-Treasurer-Ken Baker, Calgary

Past President- Larry Fenton, Calgary



2nd Inter.VP Alan Pentney

Lillian Jackman and Governor Derm

Thanks to the Edmonton Club for hosting this convention along with the support of the **Calgary Club** for organizing the Golf Tournament and the **Sherwood Park Club** for managing the Bocce Tourney. The support and assistance from the **Regina, Stampede City, Lethbridge, Cranbrook, Nelson** and **Castlegar** clubs is also greatly appreciated.

There are many additional pictures taken by Denis Couturier of the Calgary Club and Peter Carter of the Edmonton Club. Please look on the Edmonton Club Website for these pictures.
www.edmontongyroclub.com

The following is an excerpt from a letter dated May 3, 2019 from the **Stollery Children's Foundation**.

Dear Members of the Gyro Club of Edmonton,

Please accept our sincere thanks for your generous gift to the Stollery Children's Foundation. Your thoughtful donation of \$2500.00 helps supports the Foundation's dedication to excellence at the Hospital and in the lives of those it touches. It is greatly appreciated by the many children and their families who are receiving care, as well as the dedicated physicians, nurses, specialists and researchers who provide that high standard of care.

Mike House, MBA, ICD.D
President & CEO

"Fast Fred"

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Faculty Club, June 4th

Speaker: Barry Gogal

Topic: Real Estate

Team Leaders: Ken Korchinski and Ari Hoeksema

Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Faculty Club, June 18th

Speaker: John McDougall

Topic: Early 20th Century Adventures in Travel, global Adventures of the McDougall Family

Team Leaders: Fred Otto and Michael Mant

Gyro International Convention, Reno, Nevada, June 2-6th



JUNE 2-6, 2019 / RENO, NEVADA

GYRO INTERNATIONAL
— AND —
DISTRICT IX CONVENTION
