



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

President

Leon Lubin
780 454-9712

MARCH 2010

1stVice-President

Bill Taylor
780 430-0330

Those celebrating their birthdays in March are **Alan Rusler** on the 3rd, **Roy Bennett** on the 17th, **Jack Slobodan** on the 19th, **Ernie Siegel** on the 22nd, **Len Stevens** on the 27th, **Barry Walker** on the 29th and **Ari (Dutch) Hoeksema** on the 30th.

2ndVice-President

Ari Hoeksema
780 421-7776

The March wedding anniversaries are **Mike** and **Sharon Matei**, 21 years on the 18th and **Geoff** and **Diane Brewer**, 31 years on the 24th.

Past President

John Plunkett
780 435-7011

President Leon welcomed 28 Gyro's and 5 guests to the March 2nd luncheon meeting held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club. Cheerio was led by "**Dutch**" **Hoeksema** and the Grace was presented by **Jack Slobodan**.

Secretary

Barry Walker
780 475-0983

Our guest speaker, **Mark Anielski** was acknowledged and **Walter Yakimets** introduced his son **Stephen**. **Allan Warrack** introduced his guest, **Gary Campbell**; **Leon Lubin** his guests **Rob Fulton** and **Len Evenson**.

Treasurer

Mike Matei
780 930-1780

Directors

Peter Carter
780 488-2403
Sam Gruden
780 488-5520
Chuck Gerhart
780 439-9792
Ken Willan
780 434-1306

President Leon presented an abbreviated version of **Common Sense** that was published in the London Times.

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, **Common Sense**, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long lost in red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

- Knowing when to come in out of the rain;
- Why the early bird always gets the worm;
- Life isn't always fair and
- Maybe it was my fault!

Gyrolog Editor

Fred Schulte

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies like don't spend more than you earn and reliable strategies such as adults, not children are in charge.

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a six year old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the churches became businesses and criminals received better treatment than their victims. Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault. Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap and was promptly awarded a huge financial settlement

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust; by his wife Discretion; by his daughter Responsibility and by his son Reason. He is survived by his four stepbrothers; I Know My Rights, I Want It Now, Someone Else Is To Blame and I Am A Victim.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone. If you still remember him, pass this on; if not, join the majority and do nothing.

Two of our members, **Larry Dobson** and **John Stroppa** were recognized for their 25 year commitment to the Gyro fraternity. Larry was sponsored by **Marty Larson** and John was sponsored by **Roger Russell, P.D.G.** **Gerry Glassford** presented 25 years pins on behalf of Gyro International.



Larry Dobson 25 Year Gyro

Photo by Carol Dobson



John Stroppa 25 Year Gyro

Mark Anielski, our guest speaker was born in Calgary and graduated from the University of Alberta as an Economist. He is the author of a 2007 book entitled *THE ECONOMICS OF HAPPINESS, Building Genuine Wealth*. His book shows how economics, capitalism, accounting and banking, which dominate our consciousness, can be reoriented towards the pursuit of genuine happiness.

Mr. Anielski's presentation focused on Alberta's Oil and Gas Royalties and Can We Learn Anything from Norway?

Norway collects five times more royalties than Alberta and 1.7 times much as Alaska does. Alberta did undertake a major public consultation on royalties in 2008 through the Royalty Review Panel. However, much of the panel's recommendations were not implemented and since the 2008-09 recession, the provincial government has made some additional changes to the royalty regime in favour of the oil and gas sector.

Norway in 2001-02 collected five times as much revenue per barrel equivalent of energy than Alberta. In 2009, Alberta collected six billion dollars net revenue while Norway collected 48.9 billion. Norway has 1.3 times more conventional oil than Alberta and about 3.5 trillion cubic feet of gas compared to Alberta's reserves 4.9 trillion cubic feet. Alberta's approximate revenue per barrel of energy is \$4 and Norway's is over \$29.

Norway established their Petroleum Fund in 1990 which has an accumulated value of \$490 billion in 2010. Alberta's Heritage Savings Trust Fund was established in 1976 and is worth \$14.4 billion. The population of Norway is 4.8 million and Alberta's currently stands at 3.6 million. Albertan's should be receiving more revenue's from oil and gas production but there is no opportunity for public discussion or debate on what Albertan's want or expect from this sector.

It is very difficult to track the leakage of foregone oil revenues. Full disclosure on oil company operating costs are not available in Alberta or Norway. Global oil reserves peaked in 2005. Economists expect wide oil price fluctuations in the future. Unfunded liabilities such as health and environmental costs are not counted in economic calculations. One of the issues debated in Alberta relates to upgrading of bitumen as opposed to shipping the product to U.S. refineries. It may be better

to forego the health liabilities related to bitumen upgrading here and let the U.S deal with these problems.

Bruce Foy thanked **Mark** for an interesting and provocative presentation.

The free lunch draw winner was won again by **President Leon**.

Dick Nichols reported on the results of the Hockey Pool

Game 14	March 3	Winners	First Period	Second Period	Final
Oilers vs. Predators					
First	1	2	Sharon Matei	Alex Rennie	Darren Read
Second	2	3	Kelly Russell	Scarlett Burnett	Lauren Morter
Final	3	4			

Game 15	March 7	Winners	First Period	Second Period	Final
Oilers vs. Devils					
First	0	0	Carla Walker	Chuck Gerhart	Mikal McKinnon
Second	1	0	John Stroppa	Marilyn Nichols	Tess Keddie
Final	2	0			

Game 16	March 13	Winners	First Period	Second Period	Final
Oilers vs. Maple Leafs					
First	0	2	Sandra Foy	Chuck Gerhart	Morgan Weisberger
Second	2	5	Teresa Ellis	Rebecca Burnett	Justin Bergevin
Final	4	6			

President Leon welcomed 32 Gyro's and one guest to the March 16th luncheon meeting held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club. **Larry Dobson** led the group in Cheerio and **Jack Ellis** presented the Grace.

John Ross introduced his guest and new member applicant **Gary Campbell**. **Michael Mant** is our newest member of the Gyro Club of Edmonton.

Leon Lubin reported on the **District VIII Interim Convention** held at Fairmont Hot Springs, March 11-14th. The total number of attendees was down from previous years but the enthusiasm was up. The District budget is on track with a

modest surplus. The issue of declining membership was again a topic of discussion but it is clear that both Gyro International and the District's have little impact on individual club membership. Each club has developed some successful recruitment strategies that can be tried by other clubs in the district. The District VIII Conventions were confirmed for the next three years; Sherwood Park-2010, Wallace-2011 and Calgary-2012. Those in attendance from our club included **Leon** and **Jo-Anne Lubin**, **Larry** and **Carol Dobson**, **Gerry** and **Alice Glassford** and **Fred Schulte**.

Our guest speaker **Eric Spink** was introduced by **John Ross**. Eric has been a Gyro Club member for the last five years and was sponsored by **Marty Larson**. Eric was born and raised in Edmonton and graduated from the University of Alberta with degrees in Arts and Law. He has been practicing law in various capacities for the past 32 years; including 14 years in private practice doing criminal law, litigation and securities law. Eric has also been Director of Enforcement and later Vice-Chair of the Alberta Securities Commission. He has counseled the Alberta Law Reform Institute and is presently Executive Director of Policy and Strategic Planning, Capital Markets Policy and Insurance Regulation with Alberta Ministry of Finance.

Eric and his wife Christina like to travel and Eric says they have divided the responsibilities equally; Christina decides when and where they go and what they will do. Eric gets to travel along and pays the bills. Does this possibly explain how they ended up spending part of their African vacation climbing the tallest free-standing mountain in the world, Mt Kilimanjaro in January 2009?

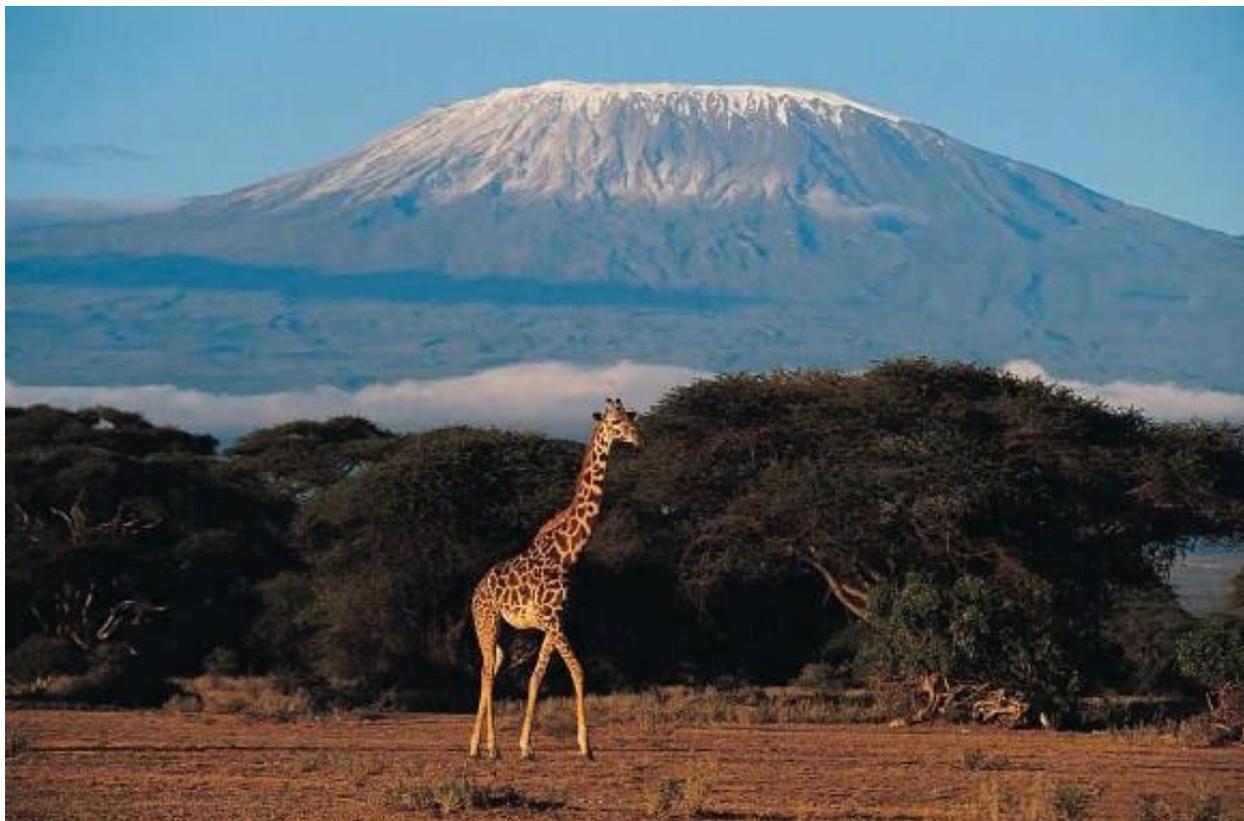
Mt Kilimanjaro rises from the 3000 foot plains of Tanzania to an elevation of 19,340 feet. It is a fairly young mountain of 750,000 years and is still blowing gases. The base of the mountain complex is 56 by 31 miles.

Kilimanjaro consists of three distinct volcanic cones; Kibo-19,340 feet, Mawenzie-16,896 feet and Shira-13,000 feet. The mountain complex contains examples of virtually every ecosystem on earth from glacier, snowfields, desert, alpine moorland, savannah and tropical jungle. There are five common routes used to climb Kilimanjaro; Marangu, Machame, Rongai, Lemosho and the Mweka Route which is usually used only to descend.

Eric and Christina started at the Machame Gate at an elevation of 6000 feet with two guides and 10 porters. Most of Kilimanjaro is in the National Park and no one is allowed to climb without permission, guides and porters. The lower slopes of the Machame route are forested with temperatures in the 25-30 Celsius range. The

forest changes to alpine moorland where there was rain, snow and wind with cool/cold nights of 0 degrees C. On the second day of the climb their party reached the 13,000 foot elevation. This was followed by a couple days of acclimatization by walking up and then back down to this elevation. At 14,000 feet there was no vegetation.

To reach the summit at sunrise, some of the group left at midnight from the Barafu Camp at an elevation of 15,000 feet. The return route is straight down and takes about a day and half. About 25,000 people attempt to ascend Kilimanjaro each year but acclimatization to the high elevations is important and many people still have altitude sickness and are taken down immediately to avoid more serious health problems. Eric and Christina`s trip took seven days and six nights.



Mt. Kilimanjaro

Roy Bennett thanked Eric for his very interesting and picture-filled presentation. Roy then proceeded to win the free lunch draw.

Ernie Siegel reached a remarkable milestone on March 22nd when he turned **95 years young**. Ernie was born in a small log shack located in the Saskatchewan district of Hart Hills not far from Luseland where he was to attend school and complete Grade 12 in 1933. Ernie was an avid baseball and hockey player and played for the Kerrobert Tigers Intermediate "A" hockey team with two of the Bentley brothers. Ernie's world was not limited to work and sport; by the age of 15 he had already learned the fundamentals of bridge and the footwork of a talented dancer.

In 1941, Ernie signed on for aircrew training in the Royal Canadian Air Force and graduated with a commission and the skills of a navigator. In 1942 he was posted to Britain with the RAF and flew night missions with the 570 Squadron using Stirling and Halifax bombers. In August 1945, Ernie was demobilized with the rank of Flight Lieutenant and shipped home to Canada. By 1947, Ernie made his way to Edmonton and worked in sales for a plumbing and heating firm until 1951. In 1951, Ernie entered the field of general insurance which was to be his career for the next 39 years. As a representative of Lloyds of London from 1955 to 1990, Ernie served his clients and the company well. Ernie met a vivacious young lady named Beth in 1956 and they were married in 1958.

In 1972, Ernie was introduced to several Gyro's including Cyril Cormick of the Edmonton Club who had been President in 1947-48. Ernie joined the Edmonton Club in 1973 and has been an active member for 37 years, participating in countless conventions, social events, golf tournaments and bridge sessions. One of Ernie's fondest memories was when as President of our club in 1979-80, he organized a 90th birthday party for Gyro legend, Nelles Buchanan. Buchanan was one of the charter members of our club and was president in 1923-24. Ernie is still an avid bridge and golf player.

Congratulations Ernie and Happy Birthday



Ernie Siegel 95 Years Young

FIRST POSTING

Gary Campbell has applied for membership in our club; **Gary** and his wife **Jeanette** reside at **8807-140 Street** in Edmonton and their postal code is **T5R 0J1**. Their telephone number is **780-484-3907** and their email address is camp7@telusplanet.net **Gary** is President of **Campbell's Home Furnishings** and is proposed by **Allan Warrack** and **Chuck Gerhart**.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Elections Night, Tuesday April 6

Location: Ital-Canadian Seniors Centre, 9111-110 Ave, across the street from Commonwealth Stadium.

Time: 6pm

Menu: Traditional antipasto, crusty rolls, veal parmigiana, oven roast potatoes, grilled vegetables and gelato.

Cost: \$35, a cash bar will be available

Contact: Barry Walker/Fred Schulte

Gyrette Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, Tuesday April 13

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

Cost: \$25

Speaker: Dr. Chris Keeling, Dermatologist; his focus will be on skin cancer.

Contacts: Vi Moskalyk and Betty Walsh

Mixed Gyro/Gyrette Event, Art Gallery of Alberta, Tuesday Evening, April 20

Dinner at 6:00 pm to be provided by Kids in the Hall at City Hall with a choice of two entree's, two salads, dessert and coffee at \$40 per person.

A private tour of the gallery will follow. Cost of the tour \$20.

Contact: David Burnett

Executive Officers Installation, Mixed Event Gyro's/Gyrettes Faculty Club, University of Alberta, 6PM, Wednesday Evening, May 5th.

International & District VII Convention, Crowne Plaza Hotel, St Paul, Minnesota, July 11-18, 2010

District VIII Convention 2010, "Come Play in the Park", Sherwood Park, AB, August 19-22, 2010